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TRAVANCORE

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

1114 M. E.

1938—1939 A. D.

[EIGHTY—THIRD ANNUAL REPORT.]

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CHAPTER I.

GENERAL.

M. E. 1114 (17th August 1938--16th August 1939).

Situation and Area.

Travancore (Malayalam—*Tiruvitamkur*) is the southernmost Indian State and occupies the south-west portion of the Indian peninsula. It forms an irregular triangle, with its apex at Cape Comorin, between 8° 4′ and 10° 22′ North Latitude and between 76° 13′ and 77° 38′ East Longitude. Travancore is bounded on the north by the State of Cochin and the British District of Coimbatore. The British Districts of Madura, Ramnad and Tinnevelly constitute its eastern boundary and on the west and south lie the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean. Travancore has an area of 7621·75 square miles, its extreme length from north to south being 174 miles and its extreme width, 75 miles.

Physical Features.

The Western Ghats form a continuous mountain chain of varying altitude from north to south, isolating Travancore from the Madras Presidency on the east and conferring a distinctiveness on its history and culture. From the mountain heights walling-in the State on the eastern boundary the country undulates to the west over hills of dense vegetation till it reaches the cultivated plains which skirt the backwaters and the Arabian Sea. Extensive tea and cardamom plantations have sprung up on most of the higher elevations; pepper, rubber, ginger and turmeric flourish on the lesser uplands; and in both regions there are reserved forests of valuable timber, both of virgin growth and of scientific planting. There are stretches of paddy cultivation terraced along the valleys, and paddy cultivation is also extensively carried on in the irrigated areas towards the south in

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Nanjinad and Edanad and in the fens and the backwater reclamations in the north. The broad coast-belt and the shores of the backwaters are covered with dense cocoanut plantations, while all over the plains are grown in addition, around homesteads, a variety of trees such as the areca, the jack, the mango, the tamarind and the cashewnut. Tapioca is cultivated almost everywhere in the lower levels and the raising of yams, beans and gram is considerable. The State reserved forests cover an extent of slightly less than a third of the entire area and are well timbered with teak, blackwood, ebony, jack, *anjili*, etc. The elephant, the leopard, the tiger, the bison, the bear, the sambur and a variety of small game are plentiful in the forests. Among the characteristic features of the country are the broad lagoons or backwaters forming a cheap highway for traffic from the extreme north as far south as Trivandrum, connected by navigable canals along the entire littoral, and numerous streams and rivers flowing westward to the sea. Extremes of temperature are unknown in the low country, the prevailing characteristic of which is a warm humidity. But the country cools as it climbs to the bracing heights of Peermade, the Cardamom Hills, the High Ranges and the Ponmudi Hills. Travancore receives a share of both the south-west and the north-east monsoons, the former in a larger measure than the latter. The south-west monsoon begins about the middle of Edavam (May-June) and the north-east monsoon commences in the month of Tulam (October-November). The rainfall is generally heavy, averaging about 89 inches *per annum*. Rice, fish and tapioca form the staple food of the people.

Population.

The population of the State, according to the last decennial census taken in 1931, is 5,095,973 (2,565,073 males and 2,530,900 females), which was an increase of 27 per cent. over the figure at the previous census in 1921, *viz.*, 4,006,062. There was thus in 1931 an average density of 668 persons to the square mile. If it is calculated on the land available for cultivation, it rises to 1,072 persons per square mile.

Distribution.

The principal towns are Trivandrum (the capital), Nagercoil, Quilon, Kottayam, Alleppey, Changanacherry, Shenkotta and Colachel. Villages and village life such as may be observed outside the State are practically unknown except in

parts of south Travancore. Elsewhere, the conditions are rural or semi-rural and the people live in detached homesteads, each nestling in its own tree-planted and walled-in garden. Hinduism, the religion of the Ruling Family, is the predominant religion; and its followers, divided into various caste groups, constituted nearly two-thirds (3,134,888) of the entire population at the census of 1931 while the denominations of Christians, including the Syrian Christians, represented nearly one-third (1,604,475), and the Mahomedans nearly one-fourteenth (353,274). The Hindus have increased by 22·9 per cent. the Christians by 36·8 per cent. and the Mahomedans by 30·6 per cent. during the last decennial period. There has long existed in the State a small body of European and American residents and their number was 743 in 1114.

Religion.

Position of Women.

Except among a small section of the population, the *purdah* system is unknown in Travancore. Women generally enjoy great freedom in the State and this coupled with their general education has brought about their active participation in affairs.

Travancore compared with other States.

Travancore occupies in population the third place among the Indian States. Hyderabad which is nearly eleven times as large as Travancore is only about thrice as populous. Mysore, Gwalior and the neighbouring Colony of Ceylon are nearly four times as extensive, but their population is, respectively, about one and one-third and three-fourths of and the same as that of Travancore. Baroda, though nearly of the same area, has only about one-half of its population.

Historical Sketch.

The early history of Travancore is in great part shrouded in tradition; but there is little doubt that the Maharaja is the representative of the Chera dynasty, one of the three great Hindu dynasties which exercised sovereignty at one time in South India. In later times, the country now comprised in Travancore consisted of four or five separate States, the most important of which were Attingal, Venad and Desinganad, and it was with these that the Portuguese, the Dutch, the Danes, and the English first had relations. The English first settled at Anjengo which they obtained on a grant from

the Queen of Attingal in 1684. Martanda Varma, the son of the Queen of Attingal, became in 1729 the *Adhipati* of Venad. He succeeded in crushing the *Ettuveetil Pillamars*, the feudal chieftains of eight *desams*, who had striven against the power of the Rajas for over a century. Thereafter he grew in strength and power and, having amalgamated the Attingal State with Venad on a treaty engagement that none but the offspring of the Ranis of Attingal shall succeed to the amalgamated State, he proceeded on a campaign of conquest with his minister Ramayyan *Dalava* and the Venad *Valia Capittan*, Eustachius Benedictus DeLannoy, a Flemish soldier who had been captured in a fight with the Dutch and whom the Raja had befriended and raised to that high position. By the time of Martanda Varma's death in 1758, practically the whole of modern Travancore had been brought under his sway. He established order, settled the country and dedicated it to Sri Padmanabhaswami, and he and his successors, Rajas or Ranis of Travancore, have since ruled as the *Dasas* or *Sevinis* of the Deity. In the wars in which the East India Company were engaged in the Carnatic and in Mysore in the eighteenth century, the Travancore State rendered military assistance to the Company. Travancore was reckoned as one of the staunchest allies of the British Power and was included in the treaty made in 1784 between the East India Company and the Sultan of Mysore. In view of the protection of the State from possible inroads by Tippu Sultan, an arrangement was come to in 1788 with the East India Company, and in 1795 a formal treaty was concluded by which the Company agreed to protect Travancore from all foreign enemies. In 1805, a new treaty was signed and the annual payment for a British subsidiary force was fixed at eight lakhs of British rupees. The history of the State has been one of steady development and well-ordered progress under a succession of able and enlightened rulers. His Highness Sri Chitra Tirunal, the present Maharaja, has sedulously adhered to the traditions of his House, and has signalised his reign by a Proclamation throwing open the temple of Sri Padmanabhaswami and all the temples under his control and the temples under Government control to all Hindus including those hitherto described as untouchable and backward classes—a reform which has evoked universal commendation and gratitude not only within the State, but all over the world.

The official year in Travancore is reckoned according to the Malabar Era or the *Kollam* Era said to date from the rebuilding of *Kollam* or Quilon 1114 years ago. The year begins about the middle of August. The twelve months are named after the zodiacal signs, the longest month having 32 days and the shortest 29 days. There is no leap year as in the Gregorian Calendar.

The Calendar.

Travancore has its own coinage of the silver *fanam* (2·25 annas), the copper *chackram* (6·74 pies) and the *cash* (0·42 pie). It has been issuing also its own silver coin formerly called half-rupee but now called the "Chitra" (14 *chackrams*) and a coin formerly called quarter-rupee (7 *chackrams*). The British Indian silver and nickel coins and currency notes are also in free circulation. The "Chitra" coins and the British Indian half-rupee are legal tender for an unlimited amount.

The Currency.

The State has its own postal service, known as the Anchal, and issues its own stamps. Its Anchal offices also transact savings bank business and issue *hundies* or money orders.

The Anchal.

The Ruling Family.

His Highness Sri Padmanabha Dasa Vanchi Pala Sir Bala Rama Varma Kulasekhara Kiritapati Manney Sultan Maharaja Raja Ramaraja Bahadur Shamsher Jang, Knight Grand Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, Maharaja of Travancore, was born on the 7th November 1912, and his succession to the *Musnad* was recognised by the British Government on the 1st September 1924. His Highness was invested with ruling powers on the 6th November 1931 (20th Tulam 1107). His Highness the Maharaja is entitled to a salute of nineteen guns, and to twenty-one guns within the State. The *Marumakkathayam* law governs the succession to the *Musnad* which, further, is confined to the offspring of the Attingal Ranis. Her Highness the Senior Maharani (born on the 19th November 1895) and Her Highness Maharani Setu Parvati Bayi (born on the 8th November 1896) were adopted into the family on the 31st August 1900. His Highness the Maharaja is the eldest son of Her Highness Maharani Setu Parvati Bayi. A daughter, the First Princess Kartika Tirunal, was born to Her Highness on the 17th September 1916 and a second son on the 22nd March 1922. A

daughter was born to Her Highness the Senior Maharani on the 30th December 1923 and a second daughter was born to Her Highness on the 23rd October 1926. The First Princess Kartika Thirunal gave birth to a son on the 5th January 1938.

Titles conferred by His Highness The Maharaja.

In connection with the birthday of His Highness the Maharaja in November 1938, His Highness was pleased to confer the title of "*Rajyaseva Dhurandhara*" on Dewan Bahadur V. S. Subramonya Aiyar, retired Dewan of Travancore; of "*Vaidyasastranipuna*" on Mr. L. A. Ravi Varma, Surgeon in charge of the Ophthalmic Hospital, Trivandrum.

The Viceregal Visit.

His Highness the Maharaja had been desirous of inviting the Viceroy and Crown Representative of India to pay a visit to this State. Accordingly, when His Highness learned that His Excellency the Marquess of Linlithgow contemplated a tour in South India in the winter of 1938, His Highness took the opportunity to invite His Excellency and the Marchioness of Linlithgow to the State and His Excellency accepted the invitation.

His Excellency the Marquess of Linlithgow, accompanied by Her Excellency the Marchioness of Linlithgow and the principal members of the party left Ernakulam by launch at 8·45 A.M. on the 9th January 1939. They arrived at Aroor on the borders of Travancore at 9·45 A. M. and left for Kozhithottam by car. Leaving Kozhithottam, Their Excellencies proceeded to Quilon by launch escorted by racing snake boats and arrived at the Quilon Guest House at 1·30 P. M. After lunch, Their Excellencies left Quilon by special train at 2·40 P. M. And arrived at Trivandrum Central Station at 5·23 P. M. Their Excellencies on arrival were received by His Highness the Maharaja and as Their Excellencies alighted from the train, the band played the first six bars of the British National Anthem and a solute of 31 guns was fired. Introductions over, His Excellency accompanied by His Highness inspected the guard of honour. His Excellency and party, accompanied by His Highness the Maharaja and the Resident for the Madras States drove in procession to the State Guest House.

At 7·30 P. M. the same day Their Excellencies visited the Rengavilas Art Gallery and attended a *Kathakali* programme there. At 10 P. M. the Ladies Hope and party went for bathing at Kovalam beach.

At 9·45 A. M. on Tuesday, the 10th January, His Highness the Maharaja accompanied by the Resident, the Dewan and the chief officers of the State paid a State visit to His Excellency the Crown Representative at the Guest House. His Excellency the Crown Representative paid a return visit to His Highness the Maharaja at the Kaudiar Palace at 11 A. M.

On Tuesday morning, Her Excellency visited the S. P. C. A. Hospital, the Women and Children's Hospital, Thycaud, the Y. W. C. A. and the Hindu Vanitha Sangham Child Welfare Centre at Sasthamangalam.

Her Highness the Senior Maharani and Her Highness Maharani Setu Parvati Bayi paid informal visits to Their Excellencies at 11·45 A. M. and 12 Noon respectively on the 10th January.

His Excellency received private visits from His Highness the Maharaja and the Dewan at 2·30 P. M. and 3. P. M. respectively. His Excellency paid a visit to the Dairy Farm at Perukada at 4·30 P M. from where His Excellency proceeded to the Kaudiar Palace for Tennis with His Highness.

Her Excellency returned the visit of Her Highness the Senior Maharani at the Sethalmond Palace at 4-15 P. M. and Her Excellency returned the visit of Her Highness Maharani Setu Parvati Bayi at the Kaudiar Palace at 4-45 P. M. Her Excellency, after returning to the Guest House, inspected an exhibition of laces and other Travancore cottage industries specially arranged there. At 4-30 P. M. Lady Doreen Hope, daughter of Their Excellencies, opened a Tennis court at the Trivandrum Women's Club.

At 8-30 P. M., His Highness the Maharaja entertained Their Excellencies to a State Banquet at the Kanakakunnu Palace. The route from the State Guest House to the Kanakakunnu Palace as also the Museum buildings were brilliantly illuminated. The health of His Most Gracious Majesty the King Emperor was proposed by His Highness the

Maharaja. His Highness then proposed the health of Their Excellencies. The toasts were most cordially and enthusiastically responded to. At the conclusion of the banquet, Their Excellencies accompanied by His Highness the Maharaja witnessed a display of fire-works.

At 9 A. M. on Wednesday, the 11th January, Her Excellency accompanied by one of her daughters visited the Sri Mulam Shastiabdapurti Memorial Hall. Their Excellencies left Trivandrum at 9-20 A. M. for South Travancore. On the way, His Excellency visited Karumathur, a village organised under the Rural Reconstruction Scheme of Dr. Hatch and also the Rural Reconstruction Centre at Marthandom. His Excellency arrived at the Cape at 12-15 P. M. Her Excellency, after laying the foundation stone of the Tuberculosis Hospital, Nagercoil, at 10-50 A. M., arrived at Cape Comorin at 11-50 A. M. for lunch.

Their Excellencies, leaving Cape Comorin at 1-30 P. M. arrived at the State Guest House, Trivandrum, at 3-30 P. M. A Garden Party was held at the Kaudiar Palace at 5 P. M., the same day. After dinner at 8-30 P. M, at the State Guest House, Their Excellencies left Trivandrum by special train at 10-30 P. M. The departure was private. His Highness the Maharaja, accompanied by the Dewan, was present at the Railway Station to bid farewell to their Excellencies. A salute of 31 guns was fired at sunrise the next morning (12th January 1939).

Efficient arrangements were made for the comfort and convenience of their Excellencies and party at every stage of their journey throughout the State and a hearty and spontaneous welcome was accorded to Their Excellencies by the people of the State who thronged the routes along which Their Excellencies passed and flocked in very large numbers to the Capital.

The visit of His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner.

Lieutenant-General His Highness Maharajadhiraj Raj Rajeshwar Narendra Shiromani Maharaja Sri Ganga Singhji Bahadur, G. C. S. I., G. C. I. E., G. C. V. O., G. B. E., K. C. B., A. D. C., LL. D., the Maharaja of Bikaner accompanied by Her Highness the Maji Saheb and Her Highness the Maharani Saheb C. I. visited the State in the last week of January

1939 soon after the visit of His Excellency the Crown Representative. His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner and party arrived at the Trivandrum Central Railway Station at 9·02 A. M. on Thursday, the 26th January 1939 ; and they were given a State reception by His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore at the Central Station. A salute of 19 guns was fired. Their Highnesses the Maharajas of Bikaner and Travancore drove in procession to the State Guest House. Her Highness Maharani Setu Parvati Bayi received Their Highnesses the Maharanis of Bikaner at the State Guest House. A Military Parade was held in honour of His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner. His Highness laid the foundation stone for the statue of His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore, to be erected by the public in commemoration of the famous Temple Entry Proclamation. During his stay at Trivandrum, His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner visited many important public offices and institutions in Trivandrum and also Kovalam, a beauty spot near Trivandrum. His Highness evinced a keen interest in the working of the institutions he visited.

The entertainments held in honour of His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner included a State banquet at the Kanakakunnu Palace followed by a classical dance by the Court Dancer, dinner at the Kaudiar Palace, special cinema show at the New Theatres and a *Kathakali* at Golf Links.

On Saturday the 28th of January, His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner, accompanied by His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore, left for Cape Comorin and visited places of interest and historical importance on the way. Their Highnesses returned to Trivandrum the next day. His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner left Trivandrum on the 31st January 1939 for Edapalayam shooting camp from where His Highness proceeded on Wednesday, the 1st February, to Theni outside the State. His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore was at the State Guest House to see him off.

Their Highnesses the Maharanis of Bikaner also visited some of the important institutions in Trivandrum as also the temple at Cape Comorin. Special Gosha arrangements were made for these visits. Their Highnesses the Maharanis of

Bikaner left Trivandrum by train on Tuesday, the 31st January 1939. Her Highness Setu Parvati Bayi saw them off at the State Guest House.

The Pallikettu.

Another important event of the year was the *Pallikettu* (wedding ceremony) of Her Highness Uthram Thirunal, Second Princess of Travancore, with M. R. Ry. Kerala Varma Koil Thampuran Avergal of Kilimanur, on the 27th Chingom 1114. The occasion was celebrated with befitting pomp and splendour. The *Pallikettu* day and the three succeeding days were declared public holidays throughout the State; and wide publicity was given to the various functions connected with the ceremony. The *sadirpura* and the two *simhasanams* were decorated very effectively, the *sadirpura* being illuminated with chandeliers and chandelbra bulbs fitted on ornamental brackets of special design; and large scale illumination was provided along the route of the *Pallikettu* Procession. Numerous items of entertainments were provided; and every facility was afforded to the public to enjoy the entertainment programme.

The State functions connected with the ceremony were the reception of guests at the main *sadirpura* on the second day of the *Pallikettu* and the State banquet at the Kanakakunnu Palace on the sixth day. All the religious functions connected with the ceremony were conducted in strict conformity with time-honoured customs and past usage.

The wedding festivities terminated with a procession of the Princess and the consort on the night of the seventh day, the bride seated in a decorated palanquin and the bridegroom in a golden howdah mounted on a richly caparisoned elephant. The procession was escorted by Hindu officers, State Troops and all other paraphernalia. Besides the electric lights on the route, torch lights were also arranged on both sides of the road. There was a fine display of fireworks at the Thekketheruvu maidan when the procession halted there and after the fireworks the procession returned to the Thevarathukoikal.

Thirumadampu.

The *Thirumadampu* ceremony of His Highness the Elaya Raja was celebrated with due pomp and festivities during the year under report. This *Thirumadampu* had great significance attached to it in that it was the first time within living memory when the Ruling Sovereign of the State was conducting the *Thirumadampu* of his younger brother, while the Mother of Their Highnesses was blessing the function. The ceremony was celebrated with the customary religious rites at Trivandrum on the 10th Makaram 1114 and on the four succeeding days. The days of the *Thirumadampu* and *Padiyettam*, as also the day previous to the *Thirumadampu* were declared public holidays throughout the State. The *sadirpuras*, which were specimens of extraordinary beauty and finish and the various entertainments provided for the occasion attracted large crowds even from distant parts of the State. Free access was allowed to the general public to visit the *sadirpuras* and to attend the various entertainments. The *sadyas* (feasts) conducted in connection with the ceremony were on a lavish scale. *Sadyas* to the inmates of such institutions as the Mental Diseases Hospital at Oolampara, the Leper Colony, the Sri Chitra Home for the Destitute and Infirm, the Central Prison and Reformatory and the Mahila Mandiram formed a special feature. The distinguished guests who participated in the State functions connected with the ceremony included His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner who was then on a visit to the State. The *Padiyettam* ceremony, the last and one of the most important functions connected with the ceremony, took place on the 20th Makaram 1114. The central feature of this ceremony was His Highness mounting Sri Mukamandapam (Ottakalmantapam) in front of, and attached to, the sanctum sanctorum of Sri Padmanabhaswami temple. His Highness the Elaya Raja worshipped at the *Thevarapura* in Vadakke Kottaram and started in procession in the special *Pallianthilavu*, accompanied by the Dewan and all the officers of the State and escorted by the full complement of the Travancore State Forces. The procession was largely attended. This terminated the round of festivities connected with the Thirumadampu ceremony.

The British Representative.

In the year 1800 A. D., the first British Resident accredited to the Court of Travancore took up his residence in the State. British Residents continued until October 1923, when, Travancore having been admitted to direct relations with the Government of India, the British Resident's title was altered to that of Agent to the Governor-General, Madras States. From April 1937, the designation of the Agent was changed to 'the Resident for the Madras States'. Mr. C. P. Skrine, I. C. S., O. B. E., Resident for the Madras States continued as such till the 16th January 1939 when Lieut. Colonel G. P. Murphy assumed charge as Resident for the Madras States and continued as such till the end of the year.

Political agitation in the State.

Early during the year, the Travancore State Congress and the All-Travancore Youth League started a vigorous campaign with the object of creating general unrest in the country. They were preparing for civil disobedience on a large scale and volunteer organisations were being formed all over the country. An extensive propaganda to bring the Administration into contempt was carried on both inside and outside the State. Many agents were set to work among the masses, including the labour classes, to excite disaffection against the Government. The subversive activities of these bodies had to be effectively put down and necessary powers were taken for the purpose under the Criminal Law Amendment Act I of 1114 and Act X of 1114. The State Congress and the Youth League were declared unlawful associations. They, however, persisted in their unlawful activities and resorted to disobedience of the law. Railway lands and premises over which Travancore had ceded jurisdiction to the British Government were attempted to be converted into platforms to carry on State Congress propaganda. Some of the leaders established themselves within the Cochin State from where they guided the unlawful activities in Travancore. Some of the publications proscribed in Travancore were republished from Cochin and other objectionable propaganda was freely indulged in from beyond the jurisdiction of the State. Although the leaders professed to

adopt the creed of non-violence, these organisations were responsible for acts of violence and terrorism organised over a wide area. Officers and men lawfully engaged in the maintenance of law and order were violently attacked and their lives were endangered. Unruly mobs went to the extent of burning State Transport buses and the cars of the Police and other officers, damaging roads, bridges, culverts and Government buildings. In some localities, guns and spears were used in attacking Government officers. The military had to be called in at a few places to the aid of the Police which itself had to be strengthened; and, in spite of the utmost calm and patience displayed by the custodians of law and order, there was the necessity to open fire at a few centres as a result of which 17 persons died and 30 were wounded. Among the Policemen attacked by the rioters, one man died and several were wounded. *Jathas* were organised from adjoining territories outside the State; and they added to the general excitement of the moment.

Government had to take prompt measures; and the entire situation was soon brought under effective control. On the eve of the birthday of His Highness the Maharaja, many of those convicted and detained under the provisions of the Criminal Law Amendment Act were, in the exercise of Royal clemency, released from jail; but the Royal act of pardon had not the desired effect. The agitators sought aid and inspiration from individuals and organisations outside the State; and the agitation was thus kept alive for some time. It did not take long for the general public to realise the motives behind the agitation and the complete absence of good faith that actuated the leaders of the movement. Large sections of the people openly declared their abhorrence to the methods adopted by the State Congress and the Youth League. Before the close of the year, peace and order were fully restored and these organisations lost their hold on the people. The leaders of the movement gave up their programme of civil disobedience; and the order declaring these associations as unlawful was annulled.

CHAPTER II.

SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT.

The Ruler.

The Ruler is the source of all authority in Travancore. For more than half a century, however, the Maharajas of Travancore have treated the revenues of the State as public funds in the strict sense of the term, appropriating to their own use only a very modest civil list which is exhibited in the annual budget of the State. The proportion of the civil list to the total revenue is very small. The percentage was 8·76 in 1062, 6·86 in 1072, 6·57 in 1082, 4·04 in 1092, 3·83 in 1102, 3·58 in 1112 and 3·64 in 1114 M. E.

The Chief Executive Officer.

The Government of the country is conducted in the name, and under the control of His Highness the Maharaja. The Minister is designated Dewan. He is appointed by a *Neet* or commission under Sign Manual. The Dewan is assisted by an organised Secretariat closely resembling that of the Government of India and a public service constituted generally on the British Indian model.

Administration.

The entire administration is carried on through several well-organised departments. The activities of these departments are separately and briefly described in the following chapters. Every administrative head addresses his proposals to the Government; and these recommendations are considered in the Secretariat and, where necessary, are scrutinised by the Account and Audit Office. The decisions of the Government, which, in olden times, were issued over the signature of the head of the administration in the form of *Chattavariolas* on palm leaves and later on in Malayalam and Tamil communications on paper, have for many years past been issued in English by the Chief Secretary to Government in the form of orders proceedings or letters. The commands of the Ruler are always issued in the form of Proclamations or *Neets* under Sign Manual. Except for purposes of legislation and the conduct

of important ceremonies of State, the Ruler rarely issues such direct commands in matters affecting the public administration. All notifications, proceedings and other matters to be made known generally are published in the *Government Gazette* which is issued every Tuesday in English and in Malayalam and Tamil. The *Gazette* is now in its seventy-seventh year. The history of Travancore for nearly a century without interruption reveals the fact that the administration, adapting itself from time to time to modern forms of government, without abandoning its pristine characteristics and ideals, has been conducted with a view to the progressive well-being of the country. A code of enactments for Travancore was first promulgated in 1835 A. D. Of these, Acts I to VII of 1010 M. E. provided for the working, powers and jurisdiction of law courts. Parts of Acts I and IV survive on the Statute Book. Both relate to interest awardable under decrees. As the years have gone by, the volume of legislation has become very large and comprehensive.

Taxation.

The revenue of the State is derived mainly from a system of (*a*) direct taxation (*b*) indirect taxation, (*c*) commercial services and (*d*) levies in connection with specific services. Taxation is covered by authority conferred by various statutory enactments; the tax-payer's obligations are defined and known; and collection is made on an established system. There are only two sources of revenue by direct, taxation, *viz.*, land revenue and income tax. The incidence of taxation per head of the population in the case of land revenue was, in the year under report, .79 of a rupee. Taxes falling within the second category are, for the most part, duties on raw products or manufactured goods exported from Travancore, such as tea, coir, fibre, yarn and other products of the cocoanut palm, pepper, salted fish, turmeric, vegetable oils, etc. There is also a system of import duties based mainly on the British Indian tariff. The general stamp revenue is also appreciable. Next come indirect taxes, both fiscal and regulatory in character, such as import duty on foreign liquor and excise on country liquor. The income derived from salt and tobacco is considerable. The commercial and quasi-commercial departments yielding revenue are Forest, Anchal, Transport and Railways. Under class (d) is an appreciable income derived from such specific services as registration of documents, court fees and tolls.

Application of Revenue.

The budget is framed annually and assigns most of the income of the year to the well-being of the people. Education, public health, medical relief, the protection of person and property, the administration of justice, and the provision of communications and irrigation facilities consume the bulk of the revenue.

The Legislature

Early Constitution.

A Legislative Council was brought into existence so long ago as 1888 and was the first institution of the kind in an Indian State. The first Council had a minimum of five members and a maximum of eight, of whom not less than two were non-officials, These non-officials were nominated by the Government. The Council was purely a deliberative body for purposes of legislation and had no administrative functions. The Ruler's right of legislation, independently of the Council, remained unimpaired. The Council had plenary powers of legislation subject to the Ruler's assent before a measure could pass into law. The only other restriction was that, in introducing a measure affecting the public revenues of the State or by which any charge was imposed on such revenues, the member introducing it had to obtain the previous sanction of the Dewan. Every member, official and non-official, had independent powers of discussion and voting. In 1898, the Council was enlarged, the minimum number of members being raised to 8 and the maximum to 15, the proportion of non-officials being fixed at two-fifths of the total number. The previous sanction of the Dewan was made necessary not only for measures affecting public revenues but also for those affecting the religion or religious rites and usages of any class. The Council was not allowed to entertain any measure affecting the Ruling Family or the relations with the Paramount Power. The non-official members were at first nominated and latterly four of them, one for each of the four Revenue Divisions of the State, were appointed on the recommendation of the members of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly, a representative institution which continued to exist until the promulgation of the Legislative Reforms Act in 1932 (1108 M. E.) The Council was again remodelled in 1919 by Act I of 1095 M. E. which was promulgated direct by His Highness the

late Maharaja. Provision was made for granting the people the right of electing members to the Council, while reserving to the Government the right of nominating some of the non-official members. The strength was raised to 25 and a bare official majority was provided for. A limited right to interpellate the Government and to discuss the annual budget was conceded. The Council retained the old powers of legislation except that it was expressly prohibited from considering and enacting any measure affecting the provisions of the Act itself, that is to say, it could not alter its own constitution. The prerogative of the Ruler to make and pass laws independently of the Council was expressly affirmed. The Council was again enlarged by Act II of 1097, promulgated by the Ruler direct. The strength of the Council was raised to 50, of whom 28 were elected and 22 nominated. Only 15 out of the latter were officials. The Dewan was made the President of the Council, but a Deputy President, not necessarily an official, was also appointed to preside at the meetings of the Council in the absence of the President. The Council was invested with powers of voting on the budget, moving resolutions and asking questions. The power of certification of budget demands refused or reduced by the Council and of legislative measures thrown out or altered was reserved. All persons who paid an annual land tax of Rs. 5 or a municipal tax of Rs. 3 and, in the town of Trivandrum, which returned one member, of Re. 1, or professional tax to a municipality or income tax to Government and all graduates of recognised universities were eligible to vote in the general constituencies, provided they were not under twenty-one years of age. Women were placed on a footing of complete equality with men in the matter both of the franchise and of membership. Every legislative measure passed by the Council required the assent of the Ruler.

The Present Legislature.

The legislature was again reconstituted by the Legislative Reforms Act, II of 1108. The main feature of this Act is the constitution of a bicameral legislature *viz.*, the Travancore Sri Mulam Assembly and the Travancore Sri Chitra State Council with wide powers. The Assembly consists of seventy-two members, of whom sixty-two are non-officials

The Sri Mulam Assembly.

and ten officials. The non-officials form 83 per cent. of the number of members. Forty-three non-official members are elected by general territorial constituencies, distributed over 17 electoral divisions with reservation of seats, 8 for Ezhavas and 3 seats each for the Muslims and the Latin Catholics. The remaining 5 non-official members are returned by the special constituencies representing commerce, planters and *jenmies*. Fourteen non-official seats are reserved for nomination by Government in order to give representation to minority communities and other inadequately represented interests. The Dewan is the President of the Assembly, but a Deputy President, elected by the Assembly, is empowered to preside at meetings in the absence of the President. Provision is also made for the nomination of a panel of chairmen. The State Council is composed of thirty-seven members, of whom twenty-seven or 73 per cent. are non-officials and ten officials. Sixteen elected non-official members represent the general territorial constituencies distributed over 10 electoral divisions, with reservation of seats, two for Ezhavas and one each for the Muslims and the Latin Catholics. The remaining six members are elected by special interests such as commerce, *jenmies*, planters, municipalities and political pensioners. Five non-officials are nominated by Government. The Dewan is the President of the Council also. A panel of chairmen is also nominated.

The Sri Chitra State Council.

The equality of women with men in the matter of voting and membership in regard to both Chambers is maintained.

Franchise.

According to the latest electoral rules issued under the Legislative Reforms Act of 1108, all persons who hold lands within the State as registered owners, inamdars, tenants or *kudiyans* assessable to a tax of one rupee or more, persons who are assessed in a municipality to land or building or professional tax of any amount, persons who are assessed to income tax, all graduates of recognised universities in the British Empire who are not undergoing a course of instruction in a recognised institution, all discharged, retired or pensioned military officers of the

Travancore State Forces or of His Majesty's Army or Navy residing in Travancore and all persons who are certified holders of fixed engines for fishing are eligible for the exercise of the franchise in the general constituencies of the Assembly, provided they are not under twenty-one years of age. The franchise for the State Council follows mainly the heads of qualifications for that relating to the Assembly but is fixed upon a higher standard. The property qualification is fixed at the payment of an annual land tax of Rs. 25 or a Municipal tax of Rs. 5. and educational qualification is limited to graduates of ten years' standing. Those who earn a monthly pension of not less than one hundred rupees on retirement from Government service are also eligible to vote in the general constituencies. Persons below the age of thirty are not eligible as voters or as candidates to the State Council.

System of voting.

In the matter of elections to the Assembly and the Council, the single non-transferable vote had been prescribed by the Electoral Rules passed in 1933. During the year under report, a change was effected in that system of voting. Under the above system, no elector had more than one vote which might be given only to one candidate. In actual practice, that method of voting gave room for serious complaints from a considerable section of the electors in many of the constituencies where seats are reserved for particular communities. It was noticed that the members of the community for which the seat is reserved had no occasion to influence the election for the general seats nor did the members belonging to non-reserved communities get an opportunity to influence the election in the reserved seats. Consequently, the electoral system then in vogue did not secure the undoubted advantages of a joint electorate *viz.* the inter-dependence of communities on one another. Further, where there was no contest for the reserved seat, the community which had the benefit of a reserved seat became entitled to utilise all their votes in favour of any one candidate for a general seat, although the communities competing for the general seat were unable to exercise any control or influence in the election of candidates contesting the reserved seats.

With a view to removing the anomalies which arose from the abovesaid restriction in the exercise of the franchise with

respect to reserved seats in joint electorates, the electoral rules were so amended during the year as to give every elector one additional vote for every reserved seat in his constituency. According to the new rules, while every elector has only one vote with respect to one or more general seats in his constituency, he has one or more additional votes to be exercised, as the case may be, with respect to the reserved seat or seats in the same constituency. Thus, an elector voting for a reserved seat or seats has an additional vote to be cast in favour of a candidate for a general seat.

In respect of the Muslim and the Latin Catholic communities, having regard to the distribution of their population and their small voting strength in any system based on property qualifications however low, and especially to their racial and cultural distinctiveness, it was provided in the amended rules that in the case of a reserved seat for either of those communities, the candidate who secures not less than 60 per cent. of the votes polled from his community should be declared elected for such seat, and that if no candidate secured that percentage of votes from his community, then the candidate who secured the largest number of votes polled should be declared elected for the said reserved seat.

Powers of the Legislature.

Both houses of the legislature have the right to initiate and pass legislation, to discuss the annual budget and to ask questions and move resolutions on matters of general public interest. All legislative measures generally require the assent of both chambers before they can be passed into law. The new legislature not only retains all the old powers of legislation but is also free to consider many matters which were not open to discussion before. Measures affecting the Ruling Family, the relations with the Paramount Power and the provisions of the Legislative Reforms Act are some of the few topics removed from the cognisance of the legislature. The old provisions relating to the emergency powers of legislation and other powers vested in the Dewan and the Ruler's prerogative to legislate independently of the legislature are retained. The budget is presented to both houses. The Assembly has a larger control than the State Council over finance, since the former has the right to reduce or omit the

grants, forming part of a demand, while the latter has to deal with each demand as a whole and is not entitled to move for reduction of the grant or any item of the grant comprising the demand. Provision is made for the constitution of joint committees comprised of an equal number of members from both chambers to settle any difference of opinion arising between them. A Public Accounts Committee is constituted to deal with the audit and appropriation of the accounts of Government. The right of asking supplementary questions is extended to all members and is not restricted to the member asking the question. These constitutional reforms embody a substantial devolution of powers on the representatives of the people in the best interests of the State.

CHAPTER III.

FINANCE.

The following statement compares the Revenue and the Expenditure of 1114 with those of 1113 :—

(The figures are in lakhs of Rupees.)

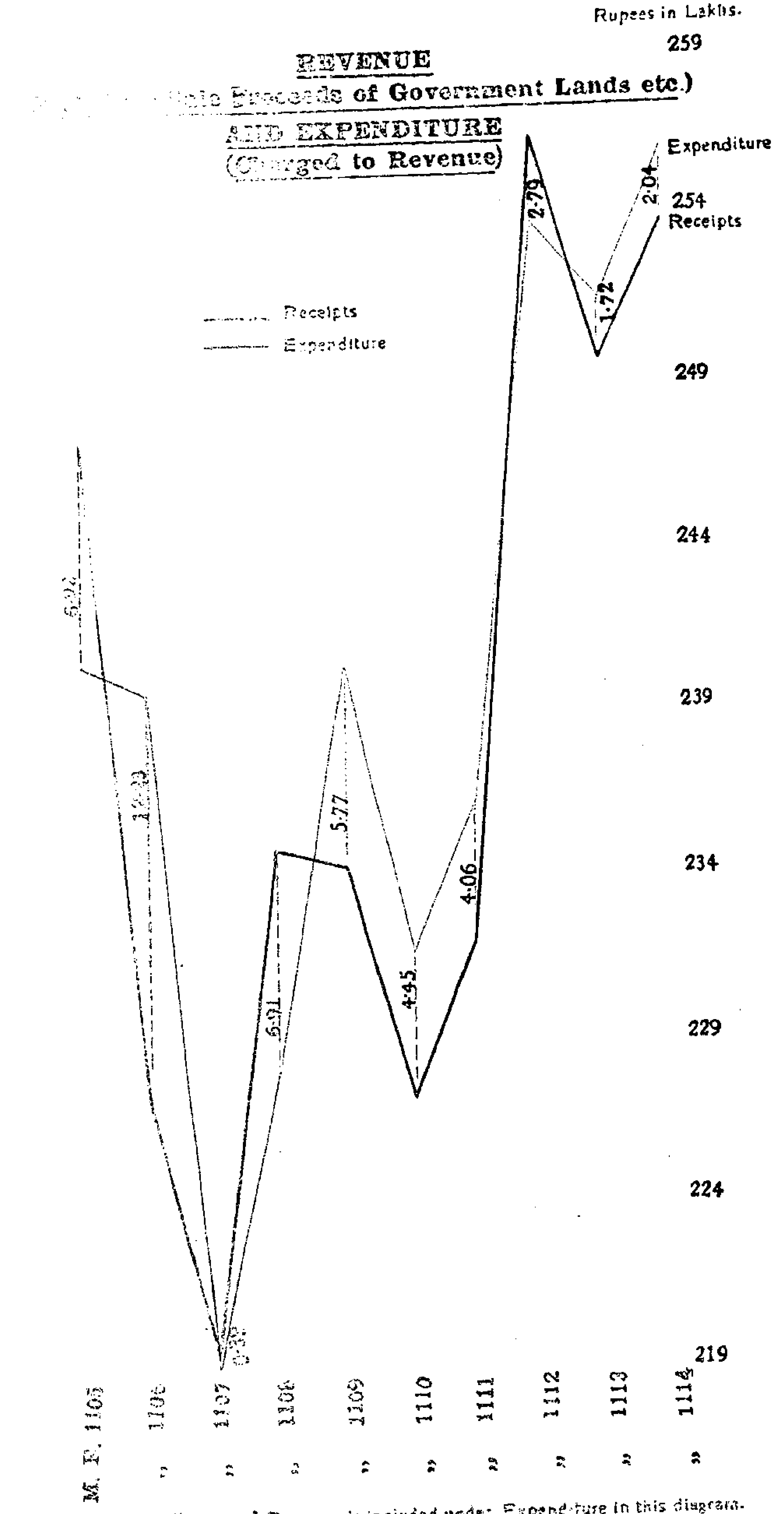
Revenue.

Head of Account.	1113	1114	Difference Increase+ Decrease—
Land Revenue ...	38·50	34·99	—3·51
Taxes on Income ...	9·17	10·40	+1·23
Salt ...	21·73	22·02	+0·29
Excise Tobacco ...	22·49	21·59	—0·90
Abkari, etc. ...	24·01	23·51	—0·50
Customs ...	41·38	48·73	+7·35
Duty on Matches ...	3·77	6·56	+2·79
Forest ...	14·21	14·97	+0·76
Stamps ...	20·37	20·13	— 0·24
Registration ...	4·76	4·55	—0·21
Interest ...	16·42	18·47	+2·05
Education ...	9·57	7·69	—1·88
Buildings etc., including Maramat ...	9·45	8·30	—1·15
Productive Irrigation (Net) ...	0·58	0·71	+0·13
Railways (Do.) ...	— 0·28	—0·40	—0·12
Anchal (Do.) ...	0·93	0·84	—0·09
Commercial Transport (Net) ...	1·32	— 0·25	—1·57
Other items ...	11·22	11·01	—0·21
Total of Ordinary Revenue and Receipts ...	249·60	253·82	+4·22

Expenditure.

Head of Account.	1113	1114	Difference Increase+ Decrease—
Land Revenue and Taxes on Income...	10·16	10·09	—0·07
Salt, Excise and Customs ...	7·02	7·15	+0·13
Forest ...	7·53	9·04	+1·51
Stamps ...	0·39	0·63	+0·24
Registration ...	3·26	3·26	...
Interest ...	10·66	11·39	+0·73
Palace, (including Panivagai, H. H. The Maharaja's Garage and Stables and Tours outside the State ...	12·99	12·45	—0·54
General Administration ...	6·74	7·21	+0·47
Administration of Justice ...	13·03	12·64	— 0·39
Police ...	7·43	8·60	+1·17
Education ...	48·85	50·49	+1·64
Agriculture and Fisheries ...	2·33	2·40	+0·07
Industries ...	1·50	1·08	—0·42
Medical, Public Health and Sanitation ...	14·89	14·16	—0·73
Devaswoms including contribution to the Devaswom Fund and State Charities ...	22·47	22·52	+ 0·05
Public Works, including Maramat, Protective Irrigation and Irrigation Capital Account ...	32·97	31·40	—1·57
Miscellaneous Political expenditure ...	3·54	4·69	+1·15
Army	9·63	10·20	+0·57
Subsidy ...	8·11	8·11	...
Pensions, including Political Pensions...	18·36	18·83	+0·47
Other Heads ...	9·46	9·52	+ 0·06
Total of Ordinary Expenditure ...	251·32	255·86	+4·54

REVENUE
(... Sale Proceeds of Government Lands etc.)
AND EXPENDITURE
(Charged to Revenue)



—The Cost of Collection of Revenue is included under Expenditure in this diagram.

Revenue.				Expenditure.			
Head of Account.	1113	1114	Difference Increase + Decrease —	Head of Account.	1113	1114	Difference Increase + Decrease —
Receipts of a Capital nature				*Capital expenditure not charged to Revenue.*			
Sale proceeds of lands &c.	1'87	4'08	+ 2.21				
				Quilon-Trivandrum Railway ...	0'14	—0'12	—0'26
				Other Railways ..	0'4	0'10	—0'35
				Town Planning Schemes ...	2,15	1'28	—0'87
				Covering up the Cochar channel ...	0'18	0'04	—0'14
				The Willingdon Water Works ...	0'39	0'54	+0'15
				Water Supply to the Municipal towns of Alleppey, Nager-coil &c. ...	11'01	6'77	—4'24
				Drainage Scheme, Trivandrum...	4'78	2'87	—1'91
				Do. Alleppey ...	0'03	0'01	—0'02
				The Council Chamber ..	0'99	0'94	—0'05
				The Travancore House, Madras ..	0'16	...	—0'16
				The University buildings .	0'12	0'55	+0'43
				Purchase of a Bridge and Road from the K. D. H. P. Co., Munnar.	1'00	0'02	—0'98
				Military Buildings ..	1'76	1'13	—0'63
				Survey of Minor circuits ...	0'46	0'64	+0'18
				Installation of Electric driven machines in the Government Mint ...	0'10	0'27	+0'17
				Capital losses written off ...	1'58	...	—1'58
				Total of capital expenditure ...	25'30	15'04	—10'26
Grand Total of Revenue and Receipts ...	251'47	257'90	+6'43	Grand Total of Expenditure ...	276'62	270'90	—5'72

The ordinary revenue and receipts for the year 1114 amounted to Rs. 253·82 lakhs i. e., Rs. 4·22 lakhs more than those for 1113. The expenditure charged to revenue including contribution to the Devaswom Fund amounted to Rs. 255·86 lakhs or Rs. 4·54 lakhs more than that of the previous year. The ordinary transactions of the year thus resulted in a net revenue deficit of Rs. 2·04 lakhs as against Rs. 1·72 lakhs in 1113.

The sale proceeds of Government lands, etc., amounted to Rs. 4·08 lakhs as against Rs. 1·87 lakhs in the previous year and the capital expenditure not charged to revenue to Rs. 15·04 lakhs as against Rs. 25·30 lakhs in the previous year. As a result of the revenue and capital transactions of the year, the Government account balance, which stood at Rs. 48·43 lakhs at the beginning of the year, was reduced to Rs. 35·43 lakhs at its close.

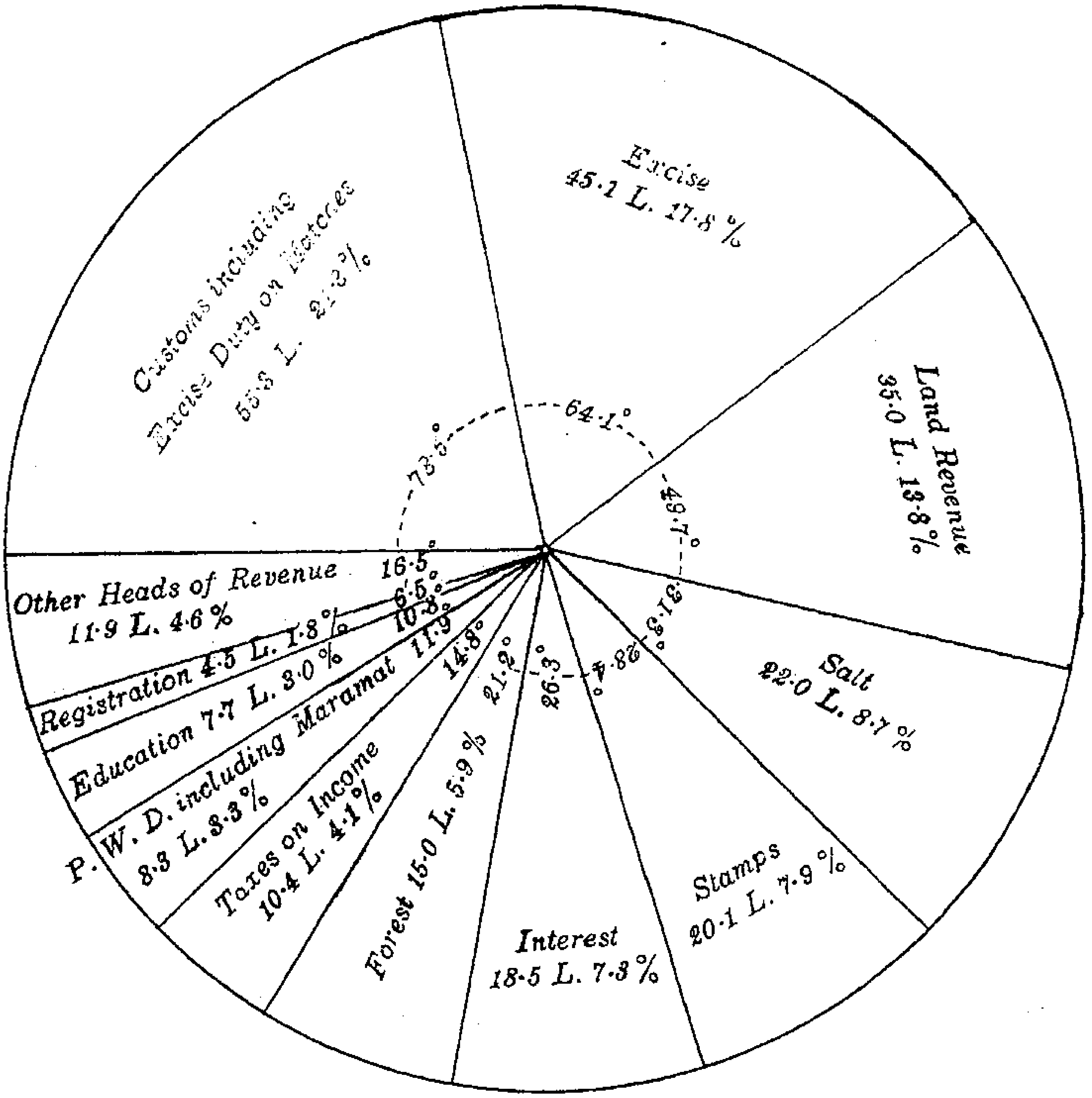
Revenue.

The total ordinary revenue and receipts for 1114 was Rs. 253·82 lakhs or Rs. 4·22 lakhs more than the receipts for 1113. From the appended statement it will be seen that compared with 1113 there was improvement in revenue under Taxes on Income (Rs. 1·23 lakh), Customs (Rs. 7·35 lakhs), Duty on Matches (Rs. 2·79 lakhs), Forest (Rs. 0·76 of a lakh) and Interest (Rs. 2·05 lakhs). Under Taxes on Income, the increase was chiefly under "Income derived from business" and under "Salaries". The share of the net receipts from the Cochin Harbour in 1114 amounted to Rs. 14·92 lakhs as against Rs. 9·26 lakhs only in the previous year. This as well as better receipts under duty on tea contributed to the improvement under Customs. As regards Duty on Matches, the increase is to be attributed mainly to the revised procedure in accounting adopted by the Central Government for the adjustment of the proceeds of the excise duty on matches in the year to which they relate, as a result of which the amount due from the common pool to the end of February 1939 as well as that due for the year ended March 1938 was received in 1114. The improvement under Forest was both under

Proportion of Revenue Receipts of the State.

For 1114 M. E. under the Various Heads to the total ordinary Revenue

(In lakhs of Rupees).



Litho, The Art Printing Works, Trivandrum.

Proportion of Expenditure of the State.

For 1114 M. E. under the Various Heads to the total Expenditure (Charged to Revenue) excluding 'Collection Charges' treated as 'Direct Demands on Revenue'.

(In lakhs of Rupees).

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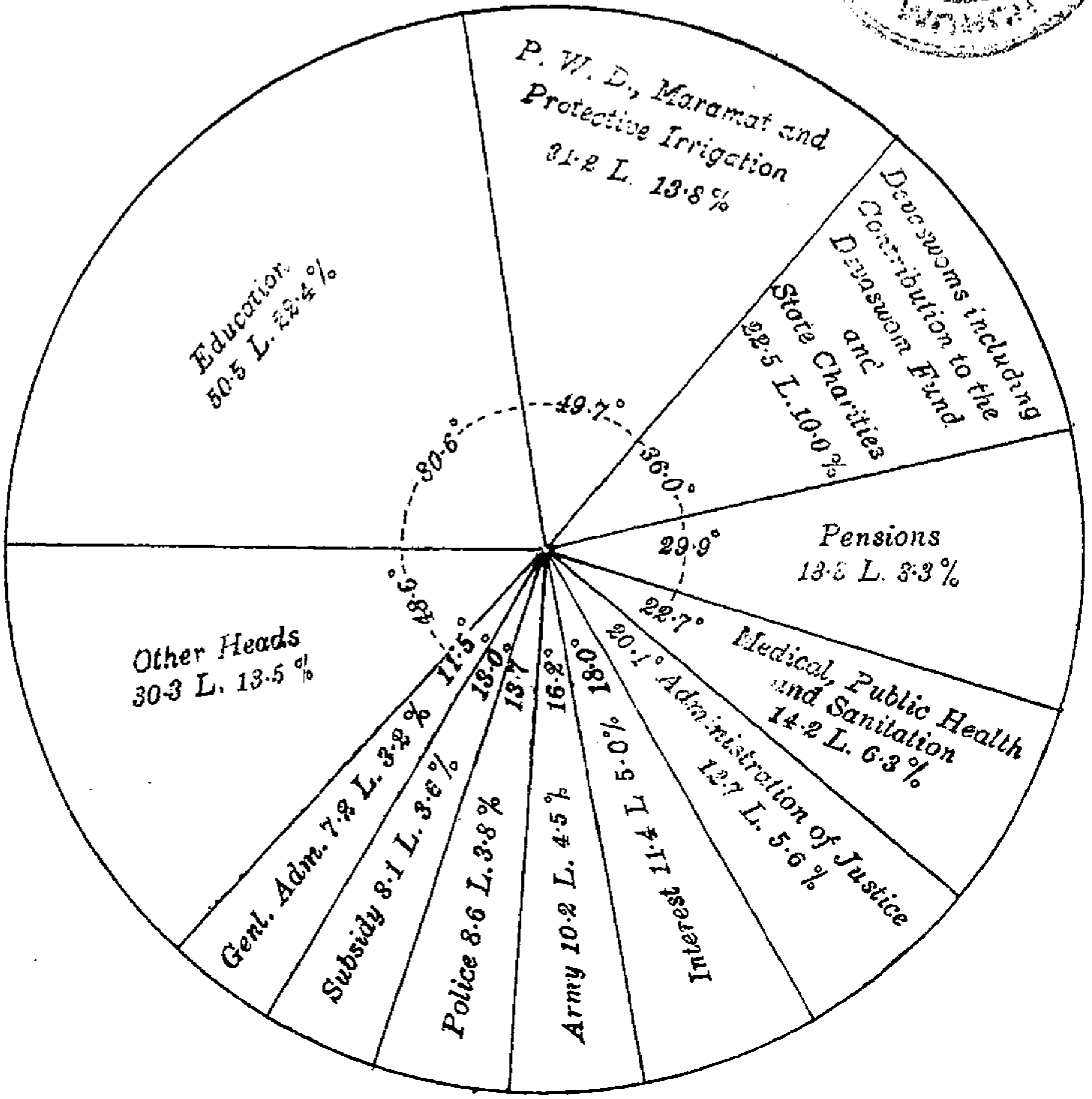


Litho, The Art Printing Works, Trivandrum.

timber and other produce removed from the forest by Government agency and under timber and other produce removed by consumers or purchasers. Under interest, the increase was due partly to the increase in amount adjusted to the interest account on account of capital works arising from the regular growth of capital expenditure and partly to adjustment of larger amounts as gain on realisation of securities due to the sale of certain Government of India securities at premium. This was offset only to a slight extent by a fall under interest on Government of India securities due to the disposal of a portion of the securities referred to above.

The principal major heads under which fall in revenue was appreciable were Land Revenue (Rs. 3·51 lakhs), Excise-Tobacco (Rs. 0·90 of a lakh), Abkari and Opium (Rs. 0·50 of a lakh), Education (Rs. 1.88 lakhs), Buildings, Communications, etc., including Maramat (Rs. 1·15 lakh) and Commercial Transport (Rs. 1.57 lakhs). The fall in Land Revenue was chiefly under Ayacut-current revenue and it was due to the remissions on a large scale granted during the year. The fall in tobacco revenue was mainly under duty on Jaffna tobacco and was due to smaller consumption. The decrease under Abkari and Opium was mostly under licence fee and duty on country liquor, etc. Under Education, the apparent fall was due to the transfer of certain institutions to the Travancore University with effect from the commencement of 1114. The subventions from the Central Road Development account and tolls on roads and bridges amounted only to Rs. 0·79 of a lakh and Rs. 5.14 lakhs respectively in 1114 against Rs. 2·23 lakhs and Rs. 5.68 lakhs in 1113 and these accounted mainly for the fall under Buildings, Communications, etc., including Maramat. This decrease was made up to some extent by increased receipts under Workshops revenue receipts and Navigation receipts. The fall under Commercial Transport was due to adjustments on account of depreciation, interest and other charges relating to the years 1113 and 1114 having been effected only in the year 1114. The variations noticed under the other heads were not appreciable and do not call for any special remarks.

Including the Government contribution of Rs. 16·00 lakhs to the Devaswom Fund the total expenditure charged to revenue for the year 1114 amounted to Rs. 255·86 lakhs as against Rs. 251·32 lakhs in 1113. There was increase in expenditure in 1114 to the extent of Rs. 4·54 lakhs as compared with the previous year. The chief items of expenditure that contributed to the increase were Forest (Rs. 1·51 lakhs), Interest (0·73 of a lakh), Police (Rs. 1·17 lakh), Education (Rs. 1·64 lakhs), Miscellaneous Political expenditure (Rs. 1·15 lakh) and Army (Rs. 0·57 of a lakh).

Expenditure.

Under Forest the increase was chiefly under Conservancy and Works and contingencies of the department of the Director of Development. The normal growth of Savings Bank, Provident Fund and other deposits and other loans accounted for the increase in interest charges. The increase under Police was due to the extra expenditure incurred on the formation of a Special Armed Reserve Police and to the enrolment of special Police for the preservation of peace and order in the country which were disturbed by the political unrest. Notwithstanding the transfer of educational, industrial and other institutions to the control of the Travancore University from the beginning of the year 1114, the head Education showed an increase mainly on account of the adjustment of Rs. 7·93 lakhs as Government grant to the University to the Education budget instead of to Education, Industries and other budgets. Special items of expenditure which were not of a recurring nature such as the visit of His Excellency the Crown Representative, the *Thirumadampu* ceremony of His Highness the Elaya Raja, the *Pallikettu* of Her Highness the Second Princess and the visit of His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner accounted for the net excess under the head Miscellaneous Political Expenditure. Under major head ' Army ', the increase was spread over the minor heads ' salaries ', ' establishment ' and ' contingencies '.

There were also savings under certain heads, *viz.*, Palace including Panivagai, His Highness the Maharaja's Garage and Stables and His Highness the Maharaja's tours outside the

State (Rs. 0·54 of a lakh), Medical, Public Health and Sanitation (Rs. 0·73 of a lakh) and Public Works including Maramat, etc. (Rs. 1·57 lakhs). The savings noticed under the head 'Palace including Panivagai etc.,' were mainly under Panivagai. Under the major head Medical, Public Health and Sanitation the savings which were only apparent were due to there being no expenditure similar to the payment of a sum of Rs. 1 lakh to the anti-tuberculosis programme last year. Decreased expenditure under the head Works —Buildings, Communications and Miscellaneous public improvements accounted for the savings under the major head Buildings, etc. The variations noticed under the other heads were too small to call for any remarks.

Capital Expenditure not charged to Revenue.

The total expenditure incurred on the several capital schemes during the year under report amounted to Rs. 15·04 lakhs against Rs. 25·30 lakhs in 1113. The decrease is mainly under Town Planning Schemes (Rs. 0·87 of a lakh), water supply to the municipal towns of Alleppey, Nagercoil, Shencotta, etc. (Rs. 4·24 lakhs), Drainage Scheme, Trivandrum (Rs. 1·91 lakhs), purchase of a road and bridge from the K. D. H. P. Company, Munnar (Rs. 0·98 of a lakh), Military buildings (Rs. 0·63 of a lakh) and also under capital losses written off (Rs. 1·58 lakhs). The comparatively short outlay under all the above heads was due to the works having reached a stage of advanced progress in the previous year leaving little room for expenditure on a large scale in the year under report. There was also no capital loss requiring write off similar to the amount of Rs. 1·58 lakhs being the loss on investments in the Travancore Sugars Ltd., Thuckalai, written off last year.

Assets and Liabilities.

The assets and liabilities on the books of Government as they stood on the 31st Karkatakam 1114 are given below :

Liabilities.	In lakhs of Rs.
Devaswom Fund (on the books of Government)	2·77
Kandukrishy Fund (do.)	1·14
Savings Bank Deposits	193·52
Life Insurance Fund, Government Branch	4·52
Do. Public Branch	5·55
Teachers' Provident Fund	4·73
State Provident Fund	11·91
State Land Mortgage Bank Deposits	(—)0·41
Sinking Funds—Debenture Loan 1091	14·75
Do. 3½ per cent. Loan, 1956	1·03
Reserve Fund (Electricity)	1·98
Do. (Land Mortgage Bank)	0·21
Depreciation Fund (Electricity)	5·85
Do. Transport Scheme	1·71
Insurance Fund Do.	0·18
Departmental and other Deposits	28·77
General Reserve Fund	60·55
Revenue Reserve Fund	8·90
Irrigation Fund	6·91
Road Development Fund	0·24
Travancore University Fund	[illegible]·44
Suspense (Credit)	19·20
3½ per cent. Loan, 1956	50·89
5 per cent. Debenture Loan, 1091	14·75
Special Loans	73·30
Remittances	10·92
Add Closing Balance under Government Account	35·43
Grand Total	562·74

Assets.	In lakhs of Rs.
Cash Balance—	
In Treasuries	29·18
Imperial Bank of India	31·68
Surplus Investments in Government Securities	170·64
Overdraft Account with the State Land Mortgage Bank	9·00
General Reserve Fund Investments	60·55
Sinking Fund—Debenture Loan	14·75
Bullion Account	0·08
Deposits not bearing Interest with :—	
1. The State Aided Bank.	2·54
2. Imperial Bank of India	2·54
3. The Credit bank	1·32
Life Insurance, Public Branch—Investment Account	5·28
Investments on Reproductive Works:—	
Trivandrum Electric Supply	10·62
Do. Telephone	2·09
Quilon Electric Supply	3·06
Pallivasal Hydro Electric Scheme	121·40
Trunk Telephone	4·13
Rubber Factory	4·45
Clay Refining and Porcelain Factory	7·41
Commercial Transport	8·24
Broadcasting	0·14
Advances Repayable	5.17
Coinage Account	0·59
Departmental Balances	0·79
Accounts with foreign States	1·70
Suspense (Debit)	4·48
Stock	6·31
Loans advanced by Government	54·60
Grand Total	562·74

It will be seen from the above that the Government account balance which stood at Rs. 48·43 lakhs at the beginning of the year was reduced to Rs. 35·43 lakhs at its close.

The capital outlay on the larger schemes at the end of the year 1114 stood as below :—

		Rs. in lakhs.
Kodayar Irrigation system	...	81·07
Quilon-Trivandrum Railway	...	55·04
Chackai-Thampanur Railway extension	...	28·90
The Willingdon Water Works	...	57·90
Bridge at Neriamangalam across the Periyar	...	4·35
Bridge across Neendakara Bar	...	5·36
Drainage scheme, Trivandrum	...	13·78
Water supply to the municipal towns of Nagercoil, Alleppey, etc.	...	19·18
Town Planning schemes	...	10·82
The Council Chamber	...	2·61
The University buildings	...	0·67
Total	...	279·68

The fluid balance of Government in cash and gilt edged securities stood at Rs. 231·50 lakhs of which Rs. 60·86 lakhs were in cash with the Government treasuries and banks and Rs. 170·64 lakhs as investments in Government of India securities. The investments of Government on reproductive schemes such as electricity, telephone, rubber factory, clay refining and porcelain factory, commercial transport and broadcasting which are detailed in the statement of assets and liabilities amounted to Rs. 161·54 lakhs. The balance under loans which were advanced mainly for agricultural and industrial advancement stood at Rs. 54·60 lakhs. Of the above, Rs. 13·67 lakhs were under agricultural loans and Rs. 1·12 lakh under industrial loans.

CHAPTER IV.

MAIN HEADS OF REVENUE.

Land Revenue.

Land Revenue Commissioner. — *Mr. K. George, B. A. (from 1-1-1114 to 19-2-1114.)*

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao, B. A. (from 19-2-1114 till the end of the year.)

Basis of Land Rights.

The lands in the State, broadly classified, are of two distinct kinds from the point of view of ownership, tenure and incidence of taxation, one being *pandara vaka* (literally, belonging to the Sirkar) forming more than seventy-five per cent. of the total area and the other *jenmam* (belonging to a *jenmi* or landlord). In both the cases, the rights of the ryots are fixed and secure and governed by statutes and custom, the ryot deriving his title from the Sirkar or a *jenmi*, as the case may be. The Proclamation, dated the 21st Edavam 1040 M. E./2nd June 1865 A. D., known as the *Magna Carta* of the Travancore ryot, enfranchised the Sirkar *pattam* lands and declared "that the ryots holding these lands may regard them fully as private, heritable, saleable and otherwise transferable property" and the Devaswom Proclamation, dated the 30th Meenam 1097/12th April 1922, extended the same rights to holders of Sirkar Devaswom lands. The Jenmi and Kudiyan Act V of 1071, defined the law relating to the respective rights of landlord and tenant in regard to *jenmam* lands. Fundamental changes were made in 1108 M. E. (1933) in regard to the *jenmi-kudiyan* relationship by the passing of the Jenmi and Kudiyan (Amendment) Act, XII of 1108. Under the new Act, the *kudiyan* has only to pay *jenmikaram* (*jenmi's* dues) to the *jenmi* through the Sirkar in respect of the land he holds in lieu of all and everyone of the claims of the *jenmi* and the payments need also be made only in money. The *kudiyan* is declared the full owner of the lands with all

Fixity of Rights.

the rights of ownership in the same way as the holders of *pandarapattam* lands were declared owners by the Proclamation of 1040. There will be no occasion for the *jenmi* to come into contact with the *kudiyan*, as the *jenmikaram* is to be collected from the *kudiyan* and paid to the *jenmi* by Government. *Jenmam* lands have been assimilated completely to the Sirkar lands and all connections of the *kudiyan* and his land with the *jenmi* are cut off by this Amendment Act. His Highness Sri Ayilliam Tirunal enfranchised *pandarapattam* lands by the issue of the famous *Pattam* Proclamation of 1040. His Highness Sri Chitra Tirunal enfranchised *jenmam* lands by passing Act XII of 1108.

Principles of Taxation.

In the case of *pandaravaka* lands held directly under the Sirkar, the tax due to the Sirkar is really *pattam* (rent) and it represents the share of the produce of the land which the Sirkar is entitled to. *Jenmam* lands are either entirely tax-free or are subject to payment of *Rajabhogam* (King's due) only. In the former category are the Devaswom and Brahmaswom *tanatu* lands which remain unalienated in the hands of the original *jenmies* (either Brahmaswoms or Devaswoms); but, once they are alienated for a money consideration, they are subjected to *karampathippu* (levy of assessment) and they become liable to the payment of *Rajabhogam* to the Sirkar which is over and above the *jenmi's* dues. The *Rajabhogam* levied in such circumstances is, however, only a light tax varying from one-eighth to one-fourth of the full assessment. In the case of *jenmam* lands coming under the category known as *Madampivaka jenmam* lands, the *Rajabhogam* is one-eighth of the full assessment when the lands are in the hands of the *jenmies*; but, on alienation, such lands are subject to one-half of the full assessment. The *pandaravaka* lands are also subject to different rates of assessment varying from full assessment to absolute exemption from assessment. This peculiarity is due to historical, political and other causes. Favourably assessed lands date back to the remote past and new additions to the category are seldom, if ever made,

Revenue Settlement.

The earliest revenue settlement of the lands in the State, of which any records are available, was of 914 M. E./1738 A. D., when Travancore lay within its present limits. There were subsequent settlements in 926 M. E./1750 A. D., in 948 M. E./1772 A. D., in 978 M. E./1802 A. D., in 993 M. E./1817 A. D., and in 1012 M. E./1836 A. D. The assessment now in force was fixed at the last settlement which was commenced in 1883 and completed in 1911. The tax fixed at that settlement was made permanent for a period of thirty years. Though this period has long expired in the case of some taluks, re-settlement has not yet been started. The results of the settlement are exhibited in printed registers which give particulars of the survey number, extent, tenure, full assessment (*pattam*), the net assessment (*iruppukaram*), etc., for each holding. A scientific survey preceded the settlement of each taluk and every parcel of land in each village which came under settlement bears a separate survey number and the registers in effect constitute a record of rights.

Classification of Tenures.

At the last settlement, an endeavour was made to systematise and simplify the tenures as far as possible without generally increasing the incidence of taxation. The names of various tenures, now of little more than historical importance as evidencing the mutations of ownership, still linger on the pages of the *Ayacut* or Settlement Register. But all these tenures fall into distinct and well-understood groups, whether classified according to the theoretical proprietorship of the lands or according to the nature of the conditions of the holding, both of which principles determine the incidence of taxation.

Method of Assessment.

The assessment of wet lands is fixed, on a yield basis, in paddy, determined by the seed or sowing capacity of the land, and ranges from two-fifths to seven times the measure of seed sown in the case of single-crop lands and from three-fifths to ten-and-a-half fold for double-crop lands. The assessment of other lands, known as garden or dry lands, is fixed either on an acreage basis or on the basis of the trees grown, both not operating simultaneously. For

example, if a holding of an acre has twenty cocoanut palms and ten jack trees, each of the trees is supposed to take up some space of land as "standing room" and a specific rate of tree-tax is levied for each of certain specified trees. The balance of the area not thus taken up is assessed on the acreage basis, be it cultivated say with tapioca or banana, or be it uncultivated. There are fourteen *tarams* or rates of acreage assessment, based on the quality or productivity of the soil in the region. In fixing the assessment, care has been taken to provide for the lean years, and ordinarily no remission is allowed for failure of crops due to drought or excessive rainfall, though there are rules regulating the grant of seasonal remissions for proved failure of crops in the case of a few specified areas where it has not been possible to provide a sufficient margin.

Form of Tax Payment.

Formerly, tax used to be collected in money as well as in kind such as cocoanuts and paddy. At the last settlement, all taxation in kind, except paddy in respect of paddy lands, was abolished and money payments substituted. This paddy tax too was commuted into money in respect of *pandaravaka* lands in 1082 M. E./1906 A. D. Payment of rent in kind continued in respect of *Kandukrishy* or Crown lands, and the *Sripadam* lands in the Chirayinkil taluk which constitute the domain of the Attingal Ranis and which are administered by Her Highness the Senior Maharani. Even this payment in kind was changed in 1102 M. E./1927 A. D. and a system of money payments introduced as in the case of *pandaravaka* lands, the commutation rate being fixed annually in the case of Crown lands.

Land Revenue Administration.

For purposes of land revenue administration, the State had been divided into four divisions. The Devicolam Division was abolished during the year, and was amalgamated with the Kottayam Division. The Shertallai taluk, which had formed part of the Kottayam Division, was added on to the Quilon Division. The general control is with the Land Revenue Commissioner on whom, besides the usual administrative and disciplinary powers as the head of the department, appellate and revisional powers under some of the Land Revenue Acts have also been devolved from the Dewan. Each

division is composed of *taluks* under the charge of Tahsildars and each *taluk* is sub-divided into *pakuthies*, which constitute the unit of land revenue administration, a Proverthikar being in charge of each pakuthi. There are now 30 *taluks* and 421 *pakuthies*. All the permanent Tahsildars and village officers have been trained in survey.

Extent of Cultivation.

In recent years cultivation has been steadily extending into the interior. This is the result of the operation of two sets of rules which regulate the assignment of Government lands for cultivation. These are:—

(i) the Puduval Rules for the assignment of land for the older and more general forms of agriculture devoted to the raising of grains, vegetables, fruits, spices, etc.; and

(ii) the rules for the assignment of lands on the Travancore hills for the cultivation of coffee and tea.

Besides these, there are also rules for the assignment of lands for the cultivation of cardamom and rubber.

There was a net increase of 4,575 acres in the area under occupation during 1114.

Distribution of Land.

The recorded total area of the State is 4,877,920 acres. The total area under occupation at the end of the year was 2,562,222 acres, of which 599,189 were wet lands and 1,963,033 acres dry or garden lands. On the basis of population, the occupied area would be about 50·2 cents per head. The total area under paddy cultivation was 656,890 acres and that under cocoanut 584,736 acres. The area under rubber was 97,677 acres and that under tea 77,678 acres.

Sale Proceeds of Land.

Until 1102, the practice was to credit the sale proceeds of Government land as ordinary revenue, but in that year the practice was superseded by the system of showing in the budget such realisations, which are more or less in the nature of capital receipts derived from the permanent alienation of the assets with Government, as capital revenue. The

total demand for the year under this head including the balance pending at the end of the previous year was Rs. 2,54,959 against Rs. 1,88,788 in 1113 of which a sum of Rs. 2,16,416 was collected and Rs. 8,597 remitted, the corresponding figures for the previous year being Rs. 1,56,172 and Rs. 525 respectively in 1113.

Demand, Collection and Balance.

The total demand under current revenue and arrears for the year was Rs. 51,09,703 against Rs. 49,16,140 in 1113. Of this a sum of Rs. 34,84,600 was collected and Rs. 4,82,861 remitted against Rs. 38,53,160 and Rs. 1,30,833 respectively in 1113. The balance pending collection at the end of the year was Rs. 11,42,242 against Rs. 9,32,147 at the end of the previous year. The percentage of collection including remission was 77·6 against 81·0 in 1113. The percentage was highest in the Kottayam Division (88·2) followed by Trivandrum (75.5) and Quilon (74·5).

Coercive Action.

The total number of demand notices issued during the year was 1,130,370 against 989,288 in 1113, the amount involved being Rs. 29,98,899. The number of distraint and attachment notices was 60,037 against 69,820 in the previous year. The total number of defaulters whose properties were sold for arrears of tax was 28,747 against 27,026 in 1113 and movables were sold in 1,804 cases for the recovery of Rs. 18,753. The percentage of sales to the number of demand notices was 2·5 and to the number of distraint and attachment notices was 47·8. The percentage of confirmation of sales to the sales conducted was 24·7 against 20·7 in 1113. Both the number of cases and acreage of lands in respect of which auction sales were confirmed were the largest in the Trivandrum Division. The average price fetched per acre was Rs. 43 for wet lands and Rs. 13 for dry lands. 28·2 per cent. of the Ayacut revenue was paid by the pattadars on or before the due date against 31·3 per cent. in 1113. The percentage of such payments was the highest in the Kottayam Divsion followed by Trivandrum and Quilon in order with 33·5, 26·0 and 24·2 respectively. 31·4 per cent. of the Ayacut demand available for collection was paid by the pattadars on or before the due date.

Revenue Cases.

The number of revenue cases for disposal during the year was 132,262 against 143,140 in 1113. Of these 119,127 were disposed of during the year, leaving a balance of 13,135 at the end of the year against 12,233 at the end of the previous year. The percentage of disposal was 90·0 against 91·4 in the previous year. Transfer of registry cases disposed of numbered 95,677, the percentage of the disposal being 96·97 per cent.

Disposal of Puduval Lands.

The total area of puduval lands assigned during the year was 1,839 acres against 3,205 acres in 1113. Of this the area assigned by auction was 284 acres and that without auction 1,555 acres. The recurring and capital revenue secured by the disposal of puduval lands during the year was Rs. 3,103 and Rs. 1,31,679 respectively, the corresponding figures for the previous year being Rs. 6,390 and Rs. 1,18,950.

Disposal of Waste Lands.

An area of 778 acres of land in the taluks of Devicolam and Peermade was assigned during the year under the rules for the assignment of waste lands, the recurring and non-recurring revenue derived therefrom being Rs. 810 and Rs. 1,497 respectively. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 859 acres and Rs. 918 and Rs. 1,844. Under the Cardamom Rules, 2,642 acres were assigned during the year and a recurring and non-recurring revenue of Rs. 8,067 and Rs. 71,501 respectively was secured. An area of 858 acres of occupation in the Kannan Devan Hills Concession was brought under assessment during the year and this brought in a recurring revenue of Rs. 375.

Lands for Landless Classes.

There were 55 applications for lands on concessional grant from the members of the landless classes and of these 38 were disposed of. An area of 30 acres was assigned to the applicants. The number of applications for lands from the members of the backward communities was 2,270 against 1,902 in 1113 and of these, 959 applications were disposed of. An extent of 434 acres was assigned during the year in the name of 583 applicants. Of the area assigned 138 acres were from the area earmarked for the purpose. The

total area earmarked for registry to members of backward communities at the end of 1114 was 15,799 acres, and the total extent of land assigned to members of the backward communities up to the end of 1114 was 7,784 acres.

Land Acquisition Work.

There were 2,520 land acquisition cases for disposal in the year against 3,145 in 1113. Of these, 1,964 cases were disposed of leaving a balance of 556 against 2,796 and 349 respectively in 1113, the percentage of disposal being 77·9 against 88·9 in 1113. The number of cases for disposal as well as the number disposed of were highest in the Trivandrum Division followed by Kottayam and Quilon in order. A sum of Rs. 2,92,197 was awarded as land compensation during the year. A sum of Rs. 5,472 was pending disbursement at the end of the year.

Agricultural Loans.

There were 91 applications for agricultural loans pending at the beginning of the year and 565 applications were received during the year making a total of 656 applications. Of these, 571 were disposed of. Loans were sanctioned in 189 cases and refused in the remaining 382 cases against 244 and 615 respectively in 1113. A sum of Rs. 1 lakh was provided in the budget for 1114 under advances for loans. A sum of Rs 51,758 was sanctioned to be given to 201 persons against Rs. 70,796 to 244 persons in 1113. Including the second instalment of loans sanctioned in the previous year, a sum of Rs. 58,889 was disbursed during the year against Rs. 83,822 in 1113. The loans advanced were for the improvement of land, planting of cocoanuts, purchase of seeds, manure, implements and cattle and sinking of wells. The total amount of loans for recovery during the year under principal and interest was Rs. 6,84,124 of which a sum of Rs. 2,01,197 was recovered leaving a balance of Rs. 4,82,927. As in the previous year, the balance left over was the heaviest in the Quilon Division, followed in order by Trivandrum and Kottayam.

Markets.

Eleven public markets were newly opened and five were closed in the year. The number of public markets at the end of 1114 was 225 against 219 at the end of the previous year. Of these, 66 were in the Trivandrum Division, 84 in Quilon and 75 in Kottayam. Of the 225 markets 180 were combined markets,

17 vegetable, 15 cattle and 13 fish markets. 194 public markets were leased out for Rs. 1,17,525 against Rs. 1,13,099 in 1113. The total expenditure incurred during the year on the maintenance of public markets was Rs. 9,077 against Rs. 8,542 in 1113. 35 private markets were closed and 15 private markets were newly opened during the year bringing the number of private markets at the end of 1114 to 340 against 360 at the end of the previous year. The licence fees of the private markets realised during the year amounted to Rs. 4,440 against Rs. 4,390 in 1113.

Conversion of Dry Lands into Wet Lands.

The total extent of dry lands fit for conversion into wet lands within the area commanded by the Kodayar Irrigation Project was 26,524 acres against 26,510 acres in 1113. The area converted up to the end of the last year was 20,394 acres and that converted in 1114 was 48 acres against 12 acres in 1113.

Inspection of State Boundaries.

The taluks in which inspection of State boundaries has to be conducted are Thovala, Agastiswaram, Chirayinkil, Shencotta, Quilon, Shertallai, Vaikam, Muvattupuzha, Kunnatnad, Parur, Devicolam and Peermade. The Tahsildars of all these taluks inspected the boundaries. The Division Peishkars also inspected portions of the State boundaries in their respective divisions.

Land Records Maintenance.

The work of the Land Records Maintenance staff for the year consisted of the survey of 1,365 porambokes having an area of 942 acres and 8,808 puduval and other sub-divisions measuring an extent of 5,929 acres. They also detected 2,458 encroachments. Inspection and verification were conducted by the Revenue Supervisors as usual. The Tahsildars inspected 3,138 porambokes, 5,324 puduval and other sub-divisions, verified 4,641 encroachments, checked certain theodolite stations and enquired into a number of complaints. The number of applications for pointing out the boundaries of registered holdings and for the demarcation and survey of sub-divisions was 2,278 of which 1,263 applications were disposed of. The survey marks renewed and repaired by the

ryots during the year were 14,027 and 4,338 respectively. Of the 15,301 stones missing 14,027 were renewed by ryots, 976 by the Accountants and 77 by the Inspecting officers, the balance left being 221. The total number of sketches for check and return in the Survey Office was 9,702 of which 3,544 sketches were duly approved and returned and 4,397 were returned for field correction. The balance pending at the close of the year was 1,761 sketches.

Jamabandi.

Jamabandi inspections were suspended during the year.

Jenmikaram Settlement.

The work of the settlement of *jenmikaram* due to the *Jenmies* throughout the State under the Jenmi and Kudiyan (Amendment) Act, XII of 1108, was taken up towards the close of 1108. During the year under report the work was continued in all the taluks of the State except Shencotta, Peermade and Devicolam where there are no *jenmam* lands. 260 survey numbers were brought under *jenmikaram* during the year, the total survey numbers brought under enquiry till the end of 1114 being 366,096. The *jenmikaram* cases filed during the year was 5,305 and the total number of cases till the end of the year numbered 280,789 of which 280,445 cases were disposed of leaving a balance of 344, the number of cases disposed of during the year being 8,021. Of the total number of cases disposed of, 208,596 cases were decided by fixing *jenmikaram* and 71,849 cases by rejection or otherwise. Out of the 280,445 cases disposed of till the end of 1114, decision notices were issued in respect of 278,708 cases. There was no necessity to issue decision notices in the remaining cases which were either struck off the file or amalgamated with other cases. Of the 368 *pakuthies* in the State where there are *jenmam* lands the list of *jenmies* of 367 *pakuthies* and the list of *kudiyans* of 366 *pakuthies* were prepared. There were 37,308 applications in all up to the end of 1114 for recovery of arrears of *jenmikaram* of which 25,989 applications were disposed of leaving a balance of 11,319 applications at the end of the year. There were 299 appeal cases and 3,471 revision cases for disposal by the Division Peishkars of which 283 appeals and 3,336 revision cases were disposed of by them. The Land Revenue

and Income Tax Commissioner had 67 revision cases of which 63 cases were disposed of by him.

Ameliorative Measures.

Coercive proceedings for the recovery of land tax for the year 1113 were suspended and extension of time was granted till Kanni 1114. The rate of demand notice fees was reduced by 50 per cent. for the first half of 1114, the benefit being given only to those who paid up their dues before the end of Makaram 1114. Extension of time for payment of the instalment of agricultural loans was granted in several cases. The cardamom ryots were allowed to pay *tharavila* in respect of the encroachments sanctioned to be registered to them in five annual instalments. The time for payment of cardamom kist for 1114 was extended up to the end of Kanni 1115. A general remission of 20 per cent. of the *Ayacut* demand on all wet lands was sanctioned in the taluks of Thovala, Agastiswaram and Shencotta for a period of five years with effect from the second half of 1114.

Miscellaneous.

A special officer was appointed to enquire into the grievances of the Nanjinad ryots in the matter of the conversion of *kotta* into *parah* measure and on considering the special officer's report on the subject the Government came to the conclusion that a resettlement alone would adequately deal with the situation and Government sanctioned as a temporary measure a general remission of 20 per cent. of the Ayacut demand on all wet lands in Nanjinad and Shencotta. It was laid down by Government that—

(i) the power to sanction remission of irrecoverable amounts should vest with Government;

(ii) sanction of Government was not necessary for effecting the transfer of registry under Rule 22 of the Waste Land Rules;

(iii) no agricultural loan should be advanced on the security of Edavagi lands till the settlement was declared complete;

(iv) the concession to pay tharavila dues in instalments when the amount was less than Rs. 250 should be allowed only with the sanction of Government;

(v) the imposition of prohibitory assessment was not justifiable in the case of unauthorised conversion of Kandukrishy dry lands; and

(vi) Rules 48 and 49 of the Puduval Rules were amended to the effect that the recovery of tharavila by instalments could be allowed only after taking from the party sufficient unencumbered immovable property as security. Rules were made prescribing the registers and accounts to be maintained in the *Edavagai* village offices. Rule 13 of the *Karampathippu* Rules was amended investing the Land Revenue Commissioner and also the Dewan with revisionary powers. *Kuthakapattom* Rules were also amended and the Land Revenue Commissioner and the Division Peishkars were given powers to revise and cancel or alter any decision, original or appellate, by any subordinate authority. The maintenance of wells in markets in conservancy towns was taken over by the Land Revenue Department.

Survey.

Work of the Department.

The Survey Department attended to the following items of work as in previous years:—

(i) Special and miscellaneous cadastral survey;

(ii) Training of candidates in survey; and

(iii) Lithography of village and other maps.

Special and Cadastral Surveys.

The outturn under special and miscellaneous cadastral survey for the year was 9·96 sq. miles as against 14·68 sq. miles in the previous year. The following lands were demarcated and surveyed during the year, *viz.*, 1,016 acres of tea and rubber lands, 3,607 acres of cardamom lands and 229 acres of puduval lands. Computation and mapping of the following lands were done, *viz.*, 1,623 acres of tea and rubber lands, 4,061 acres of cardamom lands and 3,010 acres of puduval lands. The miscellaneous cadastral surveys consisted chiefly of the survey of lands in the Kannan Devan Hills for a sanatorium, survey of 17 acres in Kottacombu pakuthi in connection with the survey of Pullardishola reserve and survey of 42 acres in the Kaliel pakuthi in connection with the detection of encroachments.

The following items of work were also attended to during the year :—

(i) Joint survey and verification with the British Indian authorities of portions of State boundary adjoining the Coimbatore District and the boundary adjoining the Tinnevelly District.

(ii) Verification of the Travancore portion of the double line boundary forming the Travancore-Cochin States boundary.

(iii) Joint verification with the Cochin authorities of the single line boundary.

Survey Schools.

The number of candidates trained in the Central Survey School, Trivandrum, and in the Survey School, Kottayam, was 104. Of these 94 passed in the final examination. 14 Government servants were given a course of higher training in chain and theodolite surveys for three months. A course of lectures on elementary principles of survey was also given to 8 probationary Police Inspectors.

Lithography of Maps.

Sixteen inch maps for 40·60 sq. miles and 5 linear miles were printed during the year against 46·13 sq. miles in 1113. Fourteen miscellaneous maps, charts, etc., were also printed.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The net receipts and expenditure of the Land Revenue Department including the Survey Department during 1113 and 1114 are shown below :—

Particulars.	1113	1114
	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts	38,49,692	34,98,714
Expenditure	9,67,664	9,67 072

The receipts fell by Rs. 3,50,978 and the expenditure by Rs. 592. The percentage of expenditure to revenue was 27 against 25 in 1113.

Income Tax.

Income Tax Commissioner. — *Mr. K. George, B. A., (from 1-1-1114 to 19-2-1114).*

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao B. A., (from 19-2-1114 till the end of the year).

Administration.

The Deputy Commissioner of Income Tax with the assistance of three Income Tax Collectors directed and controlled the work of the department.

Assessment Proceedings.

The number of assessees increased from 2,482 in 1113 to 2,591 in 1114. Of these 2,288 were individuals, 301 companies and 2 firms. The number of assessees in the municipal towns was 1,508 against 1,455 in 1113. As in the previous year the largest amount of tax levied and collected was at Quilon followed by Alleppy, Kottayam, Trivandrum and Nagercoil in order.

Demand, Collection and Balance.

The total demand for the year including arrears was Rs. 12,16,242 against Rs. 10,54,652 in 1113. The collections amounted to Rs. 10,86,563 against Rs. 9,31,812 in 1113, the increase being Rs. 1,54,751. The percentage of collection including remission was 95 per cent. against 90 per cent. in the previous year. The balance pending collection at the end of the year was Rs. 61,644 against Rs. 1,04,657 in 1113. The incidence of taxation per head of the population was Chs. 6 cash 1 (3 annas and 4·84 pies) against Chs. 5 cash 1 (2 annas and 10·10 pies) in 1113.

Appeals and Revision Petitions.

The number of appeals for disposal by the Deputy Commissioner of Income Tax was 176 of which 96 were disposed of and 60 of them were successful. The Income Tax Commissioner had 36 appeals and 34 revision petitions for disposal. Of these 31 appeals and 32 revision petitions were disposed of, 18 appeals and 11 revision petitions being successful.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The receipts and expenditure under Income Tax during the years 1113 and 1114 are shown in the subjoined statement:-

Particulars.	1113	1114
	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts	9,16,837	10,40,296
Expenditure	48,716	41,982
Net income	8,68,121	9,98,314

The figures under receipts represent the net receipts after deducting refunds. The net income was more than that in 1113 by Rs. 1,30,193.

Excise Department.

Commissioner. *Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar, B. A., B. L. (From 1-1-1114 to 8-2-1114).*

Mr. M. P. Joseph, B. A., B. L. (From 13-2-1114 till the end of the year.)

Salt Revenue.

Control.

The supervision and control over the manufacture of salt in the factories in South Travancore and the administration of salt revenue in the State rest with the Excise Department.

System.

Salt is a Government monopoly as in British India and one of the primary industrial concerns of the State. The salt consumed in the State is mainly manufactured in the factories in the State, a small quantity being imported from Bombay and Tinnevelly to meet special situations. The import of Bombay salt was stopped from 1113. The expansion of the salt industry during the last few years has made the State self-sufficient. The manufacture of salt in the factories is entrusted to licensees. In the case of the old factories, Government are entitled to get free of payment 60 per cent.

of the salt manufactured. This is called *melvaram* or Government's share of the produce. The remaining 40 per cent. is the share of the licensee and is called *kudivaram*. This latter quantity is also taken over by Government on payment of a fixed price called *kudivila*. This price was 7½ chs. per maund till 1092, when it was raised to 11¾ chs. to meet the increased cost of manufacture. In 1095, the *kudivila* was raised to 12½ chs. per maund to cover the additional expenditure incurred by the licensees for weighing salt before storage, which was necessitated by the passing of a new set of rules under the Salt Act, III of 1088. In 1107, the *kudivila* was raised to 17 chs. 13 cash (10 annas) per maund with a view to provide a fair margin of profit for the licensees of the old factories. This price, when spread over the whole quantity manufactured by the licensees and taken delivery of by Government, works out to 7 chs. 2 cash per maund. As regards the new factories, the licensees who have to deliver to Government a stipulated quantity of salt every year, are paid *kudivila* varying from 2½ to 2¾ annas per maund on the quantities so delivered. They have, however, themselves to construct and maintain the necessary works in the factories, whereas the Government do this in the old factories. Salt for consumption was sold by Government agencies in bankshalls, depots and factories except in the Devicolam Excise Division. In that Division, the consumers themselves are permitted to import the salt required by them from the adjoining British Districts on payment of duty at the *chowkeys*.

Home Salt.

The number of factories or *alloms* for the manufacture of salt in the State was 17 and they were all situated in south Travancore. The total extent of the pans available for manufacture in all the factories was 535·46 acres against 542·14 acres in 1113. Of the pan area, an extent of 32·20 acres was not worked by the licensees during the year, the waste pans being in the Thamaracolam old *alloms* and Rajakkamangalam *alloms*. The total quantity of salt manufactured in all the factories together amounted to 1,456,116 maunds against 1,167,169 maunds in 1113. Including the excess found in the heaps at the time of storage and sale, the out-turn during the year was 1,733,012 maunds against 1,256,989 maunds in 1113. The increase in production was due to favourable weather conditions. The

average yield per acre during the year was 3,578·68 maunds against 2,704·39 maunds in 1113. As the licensees had to pay the duty before removing their salt for transport and sale and as they were thereby handicapped by the need for a larger investment of capital in marketing their salt, an arrangement was brought into force from 1104 under which they were permitted to transport the salt under bond to the Government depots without paying duty in advance. They had to deposit only a security, the duty and a nominal cess of 6 pies per maund being recovered only at the time of the actual sale of the article to the consumers. The quantity of home salt so transported by the licensees during the year was 204,504 maunds against 227,407 maunds in 1113. Including the quantity of home salt in stock in all the factories, depots and bankshalls at the beginning of the year, the quantity of salt available for consumption was [illegible]533,164 of which 118,031 maunds were sold during the year.

Foreign Salt.

Foreign salt used to be imported from Bombay and Tinnevelly. The supply of Bombay salt was being gradually reduced from year to year and its importation was completely stopped during the last year. Till last year, the salt required for the Shencotta taluk was imported from Tuticorin; but in the year under report, arrangements were made for the sale of home salt at the Shencotta depot as well as in the Salt Bankshalls of the Shencotta taluk. There was, therefore, no necessity to import Tuticorin salt during 1114. A quantity of 1,391 maunds of Tinnevelly salt was imported into the Devicolam Division by private individuals against 1,749 maunds in 1113. The total quantity of Tinnevelly salt consumed in the State during the year was 8,672 maunds against 14,135 maunds in 1113, the decrease being 5,463 maunds. The decrease is due to the supply of home salt to the Shencotta taluk as well as to the transport of the same to the High Ranges for consumption.

Salt Consumption.

The total quantity of salt consumed during the year, produced in Travancore or imported from outside, was 1,282,687 maunds against 1,243,231 maunds in 1113, or 39,456 maunds more than the quantity consumed in 1113. Deducting the 8,330 maunds issued for industrial purposes, the average consumption per head of the population was 20·58 lbs. against 20·16 lbs. in 1113.

Sale Prices of Salt.

The issue prices of the several kinds of salt per maund remained the same as at the close of 1113. They are shown in the subjoined statement:—

	Home Salt.		
	Bh. Rs.	As.	P.
Salt Factories	2	3	0 per maund.
Trivandrum Port Salt Depot (Government salt)	2	5	0 do
Do. under bond salt	2	5	6 do.
Quilon Depot (under bond)	2	7	0 do.
Alleppey Depot (do.)	2	8	0 do.
Munambom Depot (Government salt)	2	7	0 do.
Shencotta Depot (under bond salt)	2	6	6 do.
Bankshalls of the Shencotta taluk (under bond)	2	7	0 do.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The receipts and expenditure under Salt during the years 1113 and 1114 are shown in the following statement:—

Particulars.	1113	1114
Receipts	21,72,873	22,02,151
Expenditure	1,26,134	97,534

The receipts increased by Rs. 29,278 and the expenditure decreased by Rs. 28,600.

Excise Revenue.

Sources of Revenue.

The excise revenue is derived from the manufacture and sale of country liquor and from licences for the sale of toddy, country and foreign liquors, from tobacco, opium and its derivatives, and ganja.

Excise System.

The substitution of the present "Independent Shop" system for the old farming monopoly for the manufacture and sale of toddy and arrack in the whole State, except the Devicolam taluk, was completed in 1100. Under the present system the rights to vend toddy and arrack are separated and sold by auction shop by shop. The right of manufacture and vend of toddy is with the shopholder who pays a tax on every tree tapped. He can draw toddy only from trees licensed to him for the purpose on payment of the prescribed tree-tax. The right of sale alone of arrack is granted, the right of manufacture being with the Government who engage contractors for its manufacture and supply to the arrack shop-keepers. On account of the hilly nature of the taluk and the consequent difficulties in transporting arrack thereto, the farming system in respect of arrack still continues in Devicolam and toddy is not produced there. The Government have engaged a contractor for the manufacture and vend of arrack in that taluk and reserve to themselves the right to fix the number and location of shops in the area.

Abkari Policy.

The policy of the department has been to make it increasingly difficult for the consumer to obtain liquor. The reduction in the number of shops, the enhancement of the liquor duties and the adoption of other restrictive measures are forces tending to control consumption. Every care is taken to minimise temptation to those who do not drink and to discourage excess among those who do. The temperance movement and the movement for absolute prohibition spread the erroneous idea that the Government created and fostered an unwholesome demand for drink which would cease automatically if the State were ready to forego the excise revenue. When it is recognised that sources of illicit supply are easily accessible in the State and that liquor can be had from almost any palm tree with no more skill than is required to make an incision and with no more apparatus than a knife and a toddy pot, it will be conceded that Government intervention only operates to regulate both the quality and the quantity of the liquor consumed, the former by the prescription of certain standards of strength and the latter by the levy of still-head fees which the consumer automatically pays.

Abkari Contract.

The biennial contracts for the vending of toddy and arrack shops entered into at the beginning of 1112 having expired, fresh contracts were entered into for a further period of two years, commencing from the 1st Chingom 1114. The contract taken up by Messrs. The Travancore Sugars and Chemicals Ltd. for the manufacture and supply of jaggery arrack to the independent shops of the State from the beginning of 1113 continued during the year. The total number of toddy shops and arrack shops working during the year was 1,451 against 1,470 in the previous year.

Arrack.

The arrack required for the State was manufactured by the Travancore Sugars and Chemicals Ltd. in their distillery at Nagercoil, under the agreement entered into with the company. Coco-brandy was manufactured by the Devicolam Distilleries Ltd. in the distillery at Vaikam. The supply price for jaggery arrack and coco-brandy remained the same as in the previous year *viz.*, Bh. Rs. 2 and Bh. Rs. 7 annas 3 respectively per proof gallon. The strength of jaggery arrack and coco-brandy supplied to the licensees was each 25° U. P. and 35° U. P. as in the previous year. There were 28 warehouses and one wholesale depot during the year. The total number of arrack shops excluding the shops in the Devicolam taluk was 396 as against 407 during the previous year. There was one shop for every 17·57 sq. miles and 12,719 inhabitants. The largest number of shops was in the Neyyattinkara taluk *viz.*, 35 followed by Kunnatnad (29), Kalkulam (24), Parur (23), Trivandrum (22) and Nedumangad (20). The smallest number of shops was in the Kartikapalli and Peermade taluks *viz.*, 4 each. The quantity of arrack consumed during the year was 43,517 proof gallons of jaggery arrack and 983 proof gallons of coco-brandy as against 45,002 proof gallons and 1,055 proof gallons respectively in 1113. The average incidence of vend rent per proof gallon for the whole State was Rs.4 chs.2 cash 4 against Rs.3 chs. 25 cash 5. The incidence was highest in the Peermade taluk as in the previous year viz., Rs.19 chs. 19 cash 3 against Rs. 12 chs. 18 cash. 7 in last year. The incidence of taxation on country spirits per head of population was chs. 2 cash 5 against chs. 2 cash 6 in the previous year. The total collection under current rental, excise duty and miscellaneous

items was Rs.4,28,662, against Rs. 4,41,370 in 1113. The total revenue per gallon of proof strength rose from Rs. 9 chs.8 cash 12 in 1113 to Rs.9 chs.13 cash 11 in 1114. In the Devicolam taluk, the arrack contract has been farmed out, at an annual rental of Rs.40,000 and as in the previous year there were 7 arrack shops in the taluk. There is no sale of toddy in that taluk.

Toddy.

The number of toddy shops working during the year was 1,055 against 1,056 in 1113. This works out to one shop to every 4,769 persons and 6·59 sq. miles as in last year. The amount collected under rentals fell from Rs.10,42,034, in 1113 to Rs. 10,39,712 in 1114. The largest number of toddy shops was in the Kunnatnad taluk *viz.*, 87 followed by Minachil (79), Kottayam (70), Parur (68), Shertallai (67) and Ambalapuzha (62). The smallest number of shops *viz.*, 8 was in the Shencotta taluk as in the previous year.

Tree Tax.

The rates of tree tax were revised and fixed at Bh. Re. 1 and pies 6 per palmyrah tree, Bh.Rs. 2 and 1 anna per cocoanut tree and Bh. Rs. 4 and annas 2 per *choondapana* tree per quarter.

Trees Tapped.

The number of trees licensed for tapping during the years 1113 and 1114 is given in the subjoined statement:--

Class of trees.	No. licensed.	
	1113.	1114.
Cocoanut	63,752	116,316
Palmyra	14,416	36,063
Choondapana	17,019	28,056

There was an increase of 52,564 cocoanut trees, 21,647 palmyrah trees and 11,037 *choondapana* trees. This increase was due to the introduction in the year of the new quarterly system of tapping trees. The manufacture of toddy from

palmyrah trees was as usual confined to the taluks of Thovala, Agastiswaram, Kalkulam, Vilavankod, Neyyattinkara and Shencotta. *Choondapana* trees were tapped in all the taluks of the Quilon and Kottayam Divisions, except the taluks of Kartikapalli, Shencotta and Shertallai in the Quilon Division and the High Ranges in the Kottayam Division. Cocoanut trees were tapped in all taluks except Thovala, Agastiswaram, Devicolam and Peermade. The largest number of cocoanut trees *viz.*,14,881 was tapped in the Parur taluk. The taluk of Kalkulam had the largest number of palmyrah trees licensed *viz.*, 9,031and the taluk of Minachil had the largest number of *choondapana* trees licensed *viz.*, 7,119. The total amount of tree tax collected was Rs. 3,93,448 against Rs.4,09,633 in 1113. The daily average yield of fermented toddy from the cocoanut tree was 20 drams, from the palmyrah tree 26 drams and from the *choondapana* tree 53 drams. Sweet toddy rules were in force throughout the State except in the taluks of Thovala, Agastiswaram, Kalkulam, Vilavankod, Neyyattinkara and Shencottah. During the year 197 licences were issued for tapping sweet toddy from 723 cocoanut trees and 250 *choondapana* trees against 196 licences issued in 1113 for the tapping of 730 cocoanut trees and 288 *choondapana* trees.

Foreign Liquor.

The vend of foreign liquor is governed by the "License Fee System" the fee being differentially fixed for "off sales" and "on sales." The import of foreign liquor directly by sea is subject to levy of duty. The quantity of foreign liquor including all varieties imported into the State fell from 32,424 gallons in 1113 to 28,547 in 1114, the decrease being 3,877 gallons. The major portion of the foreign liquor imported was through the land customs houses. Twenty eight wholesale licences, 6 retail and 10 club licences were issued for the vend of foreign liquor against 28 wholesale, 7 retail and 9 club licences in 1113. The number of licences issued for the vend of medicated wines was 43 against 41 in 1113 and the number of licences issued for the vend of denatured and methylated spirits was 17 against 11 in the previous year. The number of permits issued to persons other than licensed vendors for the import of foreign liquor was 62 against 98 in the previous year. The total collection under the head "foreign liquor"

amounted to Rs. 27,131 against Rs. 16,427 in 1113. The increase was due to the levy of gallonage fee on the foreign liquor consumed in the State.

System of Sale of Opium and Ganja.

The independent shop system for the sale of opium and ganja continued to be in force throughout the State. The opium required for the State was as usual purchased from the Madras Taluk Office, while ganja was purchased from the British Indian Store House at Vettapalam, and both the articles were issued from the Central Stores at Trivandrum. The supply to the vend contractors was made by the department. Till 1930, the practice was to obtain opium and ganja from the Madras Stores on payment of the price of the quantity purchased and the duty thereon as also centage charges. At the end of every financial year the British Government used to grant a rebate of the duty on the article supplied to this State. From the financial year commencing from the 1st April 1930, the Madras Government agreed to supply opium and ganja on payment of the cost price and centage charges only, thus doing away with the system of rebate of duty. The contracts entered into with the shop keepers for 1113 having terminated, fresh contracts were entered into for 1114. The issue price of opium remained the same as in the previous year namely, Bh. Rs. 87 per seer. The issue price of ganja also remained the same as in the previous year viz., Rs. 32 annas 8 but towards the end of 1114 the price was enhanced to Bh. Rs. 35 per seer.

Consumption of Opium and Ganja.

The number of opium and ganja shops working during the year was 130 as in the previous year. This gave one shop to every 39,199 persons and to every 58·65 sq. miles. The quantities of opium and ganja issued for sale in 1114 were 2,252 seers and 3,270 seers against 2,274 seers and 3,935 seers respectively during 1113. The average consumption per head of the population was 0·035 tola of opium and 0·051 tola of ganja against 0·036 tolas of opium and 0·062 tolas of ganja during 1113. The largest consumption of opium was in the Kottayam taluk, *viz.*, 364 seers and the largest consumption of ganja was in the Quilon taluk *viz.*, 401 seers. The average selling prices per tola of opium and ganja for the

whole State were Rs. 2 and cash 5 and chs 21 respectively. The total collection including rentals of shops and gain on account of sale of opium and ganja amounted to Rs. 4,08,609 against Rs. 4,10,671 in 1113. The percentage of collection to demand was 99·98 against 99·95 in the previous year.

Receipts under Abkari, Opium and Ganja.

The total demand under abkari, opium and ganja excluding arrears was Rs. 18,33,436 of which a sum of Rs. 18,02,316 was collected. The demand under arrears was Rs. 7,80,725 of which a sum of Rs. 22,192 was collected. The total arrears at the end of the year was Rs. 6,12,815. The total receipts under abkari, opium and ganja amounted to Rs. 23,51,785 against Rs. 24,02,472 in 1113. The incidence of taxation per head of the population was chs. 12 cash 15 against chs. 13 cash 2 in 1113.

Tobacco—System of Supply and Sale.

The tobacco required for consumption in the State is imported by the merchants on their own account by land, sea or rail and removed for consumption on payment of duty at the chowkey of import, or bonded in the Government warehouses where it is allowed to remain in the joint custody of the Government and the merchants. The merchants remove the tobacco from the warehouses after paying the import duty. The varieties of tobacco imported are Tinnevelly, Jaffna and Coimbatore, the duty imposed being Bh. Rs. 120 per candy for Coimbatore and Tinnevelly and Rs. 135 per candy for Jaffna tobacco. But during 1114 the duty on Jaffna tobacco was raised to Bh. Rs. 200 per candy. The wholesale and retail license system for the sale of tobacco prevalent in the previous year in certain parts of the State was extended throughout the State with effect from the 1st Kanni 1113. The right to sell *beedi* and *beedi* tobacco was restricted to persons who had obtained a licence from the Excise Department. The import of *beedi* and *beedi* tobacco was allowed only by persons who had obtained permits for the purpose from the department, except in the Devicolam taluk and the Vandanmettu pakuthi of the Peermade taluk.

The following restrictions relating to trade in tobacco were also in force *viz.*,

a *mellabhom* licensee should import not less than 50 candies of Coimbatore and Tinnevelly tobacco or 10 candies of Jaffna tobacco in a year; a wholesale licensee who carries on business outside the Devicolam Division should sell not less than two candies of *beedi* tobacco or five candies of other varieties of tobacco as the case may be in a year; a retail licensee should sell on an average not less than 15 lbs. of tobacco per month.

Tobacco Consumption.

The consumption of duty paid tobacco in the State during the year was 16,633 candies against 17,071 candies in 1113 showing a decrease of 438 candies. Out of the 16,633 candies, 1,078 candies were Tinnevelly tobacco, 12,399 candies were Coimbatore tobacco and 3,156 candies were Jaffna tobacco, the figures for 1113 being 1,113 Tinnevelly, 11,775 Coimbatore and 4,183 candies of Jaffna tobacco. The consumption of raw tobacco has been gradually going down in recent years. The most important factor for the decrease in the consmption of raw tobacco is the rise in the consumption of manufactured tobacco. The smoking habit is gradually supplanting the chewing habit of the people. Leaving out a third of the population as children and non-users of tobacco, the average consumption per head of population during 1114 was 2·94 lbs, against 3·15 lbs in 1113. The total collection under tobacco amounted to Rs. 21,59,056 against Rs 22,48,802 in 1113. In addition to the cultivation of tobacco in the Government Farm at Puliyara three licences were issued during the year to private individuals for its cultivation.

Excise Offences.

Including 92 cases pending investigation at the beginning of the year, the total number of cases for investigation by the department under the Abkari, Opium, Tobacco and Salt laws was 2,117 against 2,353 cases in 1113. Of these, 1,977 cases were charged before the magistracy, 73 cases were either referred or struck off the rolls for want of evidence and 67 cases were pending at the end of the year. Including cases pending at the commencement of the year the number of cases tried by the Magistrates was 2,050 of which 1,928 ended in conviction and 53 in acquittal and the remaining 69 cases were pending at the close of the year. The percentages of conviction and acquittal were 94·41 and 5·59 as against 97·73 and 2·27

in 1113. The number of cases detected by the department fell from 2,285 in 1113 to 2,025 in 1114. There was a decrease of cases under abkari, opium and tobacco while there was a slight increase of cases under salt.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The receipts under Excise (abkari, opium, ganja and tobacco) during the year amounted to Rs. 45,09,991 against Rs. 46,50,334 in 1113 and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 5,17,003 against Rs. 4,81,045. The receipts decreased by Rs. 1,40,343 while the expenditure rose by Rs. 35,958. The net revenue fell from Rs. 41,69,289 to Rs. 39,92,988.

Customs Revenue.

Import duty.

63. The relations of Travancore with the British Indian Government in regard to "Customs" are governed by the Interportal Trade Convention of 1865. Until the date of that Convention, the Travancore Government was free to levy its own rates of import and export duties on goods entering or leaving her frontiers. Subject to certain exceptions, the Travancore Government agreed under the Convention to admit, free of duty, all goods which are the manufacture or produce of British India or Cochin, or which have paid import duty in British India or Cochin. The Travancore Government also agreed, except in the case of certain specified articles, to adopt the British Indian tariff in respect of imports direct through her own ports. In consideration of the surrender by Travancore of her right to levy import duties on foreign goods entering the State after having paid duty in British India, the British Government agreed to compensate her to the extent of the probable loss sustained by her on this account. The average amount of customs collected at the time of the Interportal Convention was Bh. Rs. 53,218, of which Bh. Rs. 13,218 represented the amount of import duty realised at the Travancore seaports, and the loss then sustained by the State on account of the concession was Bh. Rs. 40,000. Although the principle was recognised that Travancore was entitled to be compensated to the extent of the probable loss sustained by her on account of the surrender of the right to levy duty on goods which have already paid duty in British India or Cochin, the practice has been to calculate such loss on the basis of the figures for 1863-64. Thus, when the Travancore sea customs

collections (on imports from foreign countries, excluding goods imported by sea for the use of the Travancore Government) are less than Bh. Rs. 13,218, the British Government pays to Travancore Bh. Rs. 40,000 ; but, if in any year, the collections exceed Bh. Rs. 13,218, the excess amount realised is deducted from the sum of Bh. Rs. 40,000 and the balance alone is paid to Travancore. No amount was paid during the year under report by the British Government under the Interportal Trade Convention. Tobacco, salt, opium and spirits are excluded from the Convention. The assigned values and rates of duty adopted by Travancore in regard to imports from foreign countries follow the British Indian tariff.

Export duty.

64. In regard to exports, the State is free to levy duty on any commodity. Under the Interportal Trade Convention, however, the rate of duty on tariff valuation shall not exceed 5 per cent. on all ordinary exports, 10 per cent. on timber and Rs. 15 a candy on pepper and arecanut. Of the articles on which export duty is now levied, most important are copra, coir, cocoanut oil, cocoanuts, tea, pepper, dry ginger, jaggery, salt fish, arecanuts and tamarind. A cess on coffee and tea exported from the State is also charged at the rate of Bh. Re. 1 per cwt. and Bh. Re. 1 annas 6 per 100 lbs. respectively. The revenue is collected at the land and sea customs houses. There were 74 Land Customs Houses, 4 Sea Customs Houses and one Aerodrome Customs in the State.

Receipts under Imports and Exports.

The total receipts under imports during the year amounted to Rs. 7,49,018, against Rs. 7,45,719 in the previous year the increase being Rs. 3,299. Nearly 70·6 per cent. of the import duty was from snuff, English tobacco, cigars, cigarettes, *beedies*, tobacco for *beedies*, other kinds of manufactured Indian tobacco, spirituous medicinal preparations, table salt, rock salt and *induppu*. The total import duty contributed by these articles amounted to Rs. 5,28,569 against Rs. 5,69,812 in 1113, the decrease being Rs. 41,243. There was an increase in the receipts under snuff, cigars, *beedies* and *induppu*. The total export duty including duty on tea collected during the year was Rs. 26,15,750 against Rs. 24,48,894 in 1113 the increase being Rs. 1,66,856. The bulk of the export duty was as usual realised from the

produce of the cocoanut tree *viz.*, copra, coir, cable, coir fibre, cocoanut husks, *punnac* and cocoanut oil. These articles yielded Rs. 10,46,343 or 40·04 per cent. the corresponding duty realised in 1113 being Rs. 10,05,374 or 41·06 per cent. The increase in the export of the produce of the cocoanut tree was substantial and due to greater production of the articles. Of the remaining articles of export, arecanut without husk, ginger, turmeric, pepper, and tea showed very good increase owing to larger production. There was a decrease under jaggery and this was due to the reduction of the tariff value of jaggery.

Duty on Matches.

During the year 11 match factories were working in the State as in the previous year. The total receipts under duty on matches and the amount received from the British Government amounted to Rs. 6,60,579 against Rs. 3,96,672 in 1113, the amount received from the British Government under Excise duty on matches being Rs. 5,56,662 against Rs. 3,27,554 in 1113.

Customs-Receipts and Expenditure.

The receipts under Customs during the year amounted to Rs. 48,73,397 against Rs. 41,37,597 in 1113 and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,00,741 against Rs. 94,914 in 1113. The figures under receipts include Rs. 14,92,296 received during the year as the State's share in the proceeds from the Cochin Harbour. No amount was received from the British Government under the Interportal Convention.

Forest Revenue.

Conservator. *Mr. P. Raman Pillai B. A., Barrister-at-Law.*

Historical Survey.

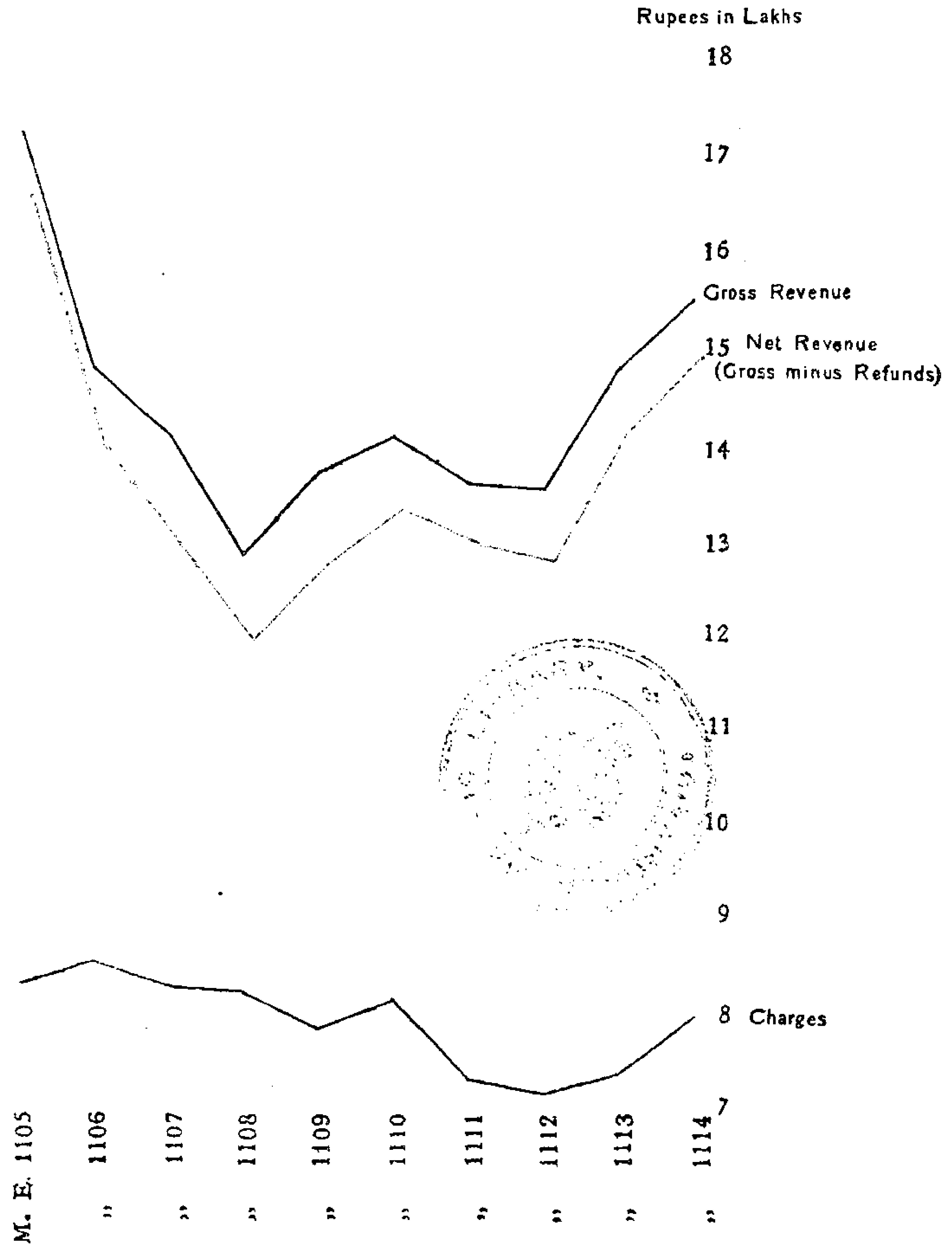
Travancore has been from the earliest times a country with valuable forests. In the early part of the last century, teak was the only 'monopoly' timber in the State. People were free to fell and remove every other kind of timber except that they had to pay a slight river duty when the timber was transported by water. The first Conservator was appointed more than a century ago with an establishment costing a little over Rs. 1,000 *per annum*. The function of the Conservator was confined to arranging for teak and cardamom being

collected and delivered at Alleppey. From such s mall beginnings the department steadily grew in size and strength and it has now been charged with increased and multifarious functions. In 1844, blackwood and *anjili* were declared monoplies; and wax, cardamom, ebony and sandalwood were later on added to the list. Cardamom ceased to be a monopoly in 1071 (1896). At present the 'monopoly' trees are teak, blackwood, ebony and sandalwood. The monopoly on trees growing on lands west of the Main Central and the Main Southern Roads was abolished from 1109. Artificial regeneration of teak was commenced in 1886. In 1063 (1888) the first Forest Act for the protection and management of the State forests was promulgated. The first forest reserve of 300 square miles was notified in the following year. Since then, in the course of about 49 years the area of the State reserved forests has reached 2,402 square miles and 364 acres. In the interests of cultivation and to meet the increasing pressure of population, selected areas from them are, wherever possible, being excluded for assignment. The receipts of the Forest Department in 1038 (1862-63) amounted to over Rs. 1·75 lakhs. As a result of nearly seventy-five years' of careful control and management, the annual income from the department has risen far above that amount and in 1113 it was Rs. 14·21 lakhs. There has also been a proportionate rise in the expenditure which was less than Rs. 80,000 in 1059 (1883-84) but amounted to Rs. 7·53 lakhs in the year under report.

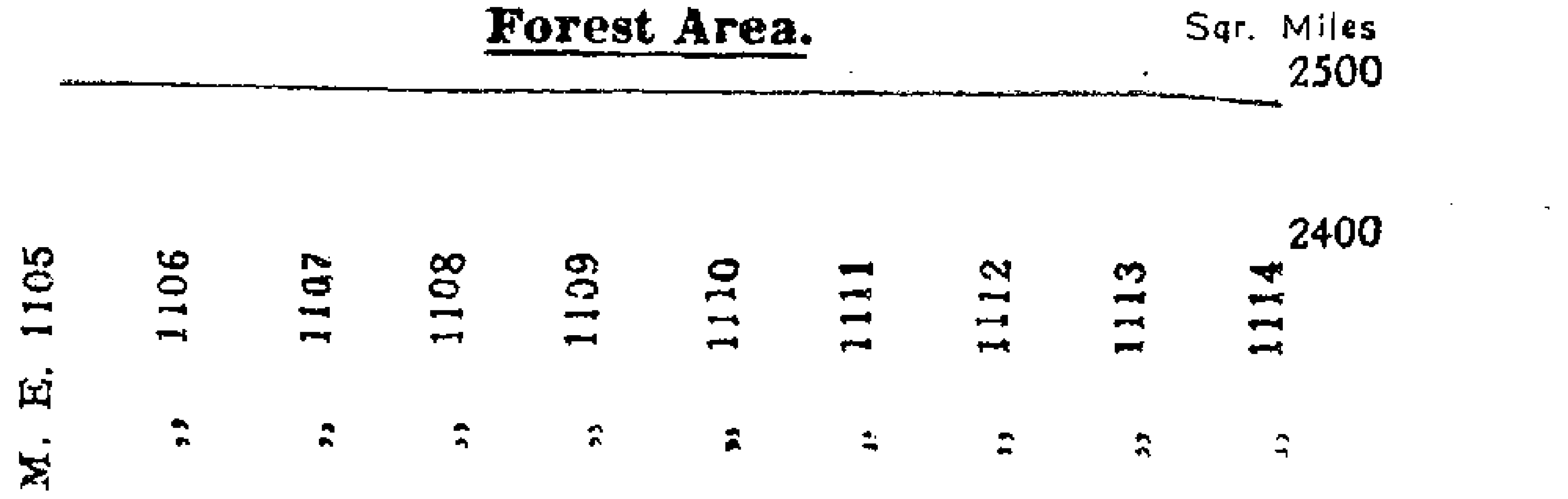
Forest Policy.

The policy of the Government has in recent years been to refrain from further reservation of extensive areas. The objects underlying the reservation so far made have been to secure the utmost possible yield from that part of a forest block which is commercially valuable, to protect the forest growth in mountainous tracts for the prevention of erosion and landslips, to regulate the flow of water in streams originating from the hills and to preserve the sources of supply of small timber and fuel to the agriculturists and of fodder for cattle. Endeavours have been made to develop the utilisation of soft woods. On the conservancy side, special efforts are made for the scientific plantation of valuable species of timber to replace fellings in natural forests. Artificial regeneration, side by side with exploitation, is the settled policy of the

Forest Revenue and Charges



Forest Area.



Litho, The Art Printing Works, Trivandrum.

Government. A judicious policy of disafforesting as much suitable land as practicable for paddy cultivation is being systematically pursued.

Reserved Forests.

The area of reserved forests decreased from 2,402 sq. miles and 364 acres in 1113 to 2,360 sq. miles and 232 acres in 1114. The decrease was due mainly to the correct specification of the area of the Goodrical reserve forest and the disafforestation of 132·12 acres from the Pallode reserve. The area of reserved forests represented 30·96 per cent. of the total area of the State.

Reserved Lands, and Fuel and Fodder Reserves.

The area of reserved lands remained the same as in the previous year *viz.*, 84 sq. miles and 374 acres while that of the fuel and fodder reserves increased by 312 acres.

Forest Settlement.

Seventeen blocks consisting of 10 proposed regular reserves and 7 proposed fuel and fodder reserves were under settlement at the commencement of the year. To these 3 grazing blocks *viz.*, Pambanar grazing block and Kalkulam grazing blocks Nos. 1 and 2 were added during the year. Thus at the close of the year, there were 20 blocks pending settlement of which 10 were proposed regular reserves and 10 proposed fuel and fodder reserves.

Working Plans.

Forest exploitation is regulated by working plans or working schemes so as to bring all important forests under systematic management, to ensure continuity of treatment and orderly and economic working, as well as to ensure forest regeneration in the interests of posterity. Out of a total area of 2,360 sq. miles and 232 acres, sanctioned plans or schemes exist for 1,014 sq. miles and 298 acres, against 1,014 sq. miles and 430 acres during 1113 M. E. The reduction in area is due to the exclusion of an area of 132 acres from the Pallode reserve in the Southern Division covered by regular plans. The areas for which working plans or schemes are not required come to 1,032 sq. miles and 370 acres, while schemes

have to be prepared for only 228 sq. miles and 321 acres or for 9·5 per cent. of the total area of reserved forests.

Exploitation of Timber.

As in the past, the extraction of timber from the forests was entrusted mostly to contract agencies except in the High Ranges where timbers were extracted under the *mellabhom* system. Motor lorries and carts along land routes and rafts along waterways were adopted for the transport of forest produce. Elephants were employed for dragging timber from areas away from road sides or river banks. The quantity of timber extracted and removed from the forests was 1,621,854 c. ft. against 1,794,336 c. ft. in 1113. Of the timber extracted, royalties formed 765,870 c. ft. and junglewood 855,984 c. ft., the corresponding figures for the previous year being 1,794,336 c. ft. consisting of 1,017,835 c. ft. of royalties and 776,501 c. ft. of junglewood. Including the stock at the commencement of the year the quantity of timber available for disposal was 2,525,786 c. ft. consisting of 1,500,348 c. ft. of royalties and 1,025,438 c. ft. of junglewood. Of this quantity, 1,610,389 c. ft. consisting of 725,848 c. ft. of royalties and 884,541 c. ft. of junglewood were disposed of against 680,142 c. ft. of royalties and 704,461 c. ft. of junglewood in the previous year. The balance in stock at the end of the year consisted of 774,500 c. ft. of royalties and 140,897 c. ft. of junglewood. The total receipts on account of sale of royalties and junglewood amounted to Rs. 14,00,748 against Rs. 13,27,372 in 1113.

Minor Forest Produce.

Firewood, charcoal, cardamoms, sandal, bamboos and ivory are among the most important items of minor forest produce. The receipts from the disposal of firewood and charcoal amounted to Rs. 13,583 against Rs. 3,437 in the previous year. The receipts from cardamoms amounted to Rs. 7,116 against Rs. 9,860 in 1113. A sum of Rs. 12,098 was realised from the sale of bamboos against Rs. 18,338 in the previous year. The receipts from the sale of ivory fell from Rs. 4,682 in 1113 to Rs. 1,548 in 1114. The receipts from grazing permits and fodder grass rose from Rs. 16,717 to Rs. 20,082 in 1114. Besides these, articles such as reeds, honey, rattans, wax, rubber, etc. are also sources of revenue from the forests.

Elephants.

There were 11 elephants in the possession of the department at the commencement of the year. Of these, 6 were tuskers and 5 cows. Capturing operations conducted in the Central and Southern Divisions brought in 12 elephants of which 7 were tuskers and 5 cows. Out of the total number of 23 elephants in the possession of the department, 4 tuskers and 2 cows were sold in auction; 2 tuskers and one cow were sold to the Palace; one tusker was sold by negotiation and one tusker died during the year. Thus there remained at the end of the year 12 elephants in the possession of the department of which 5 were tuskers and 7 cows. The average cost of maintaing a trained elephant amounted to Rs. 268 in 1114 and that of capture and upkeep of an elephant to Rs. 347. The average realisation on account of sale of an elephant was Rs. 1,281 against Rs. 1,258 in the previous year. A sum of Rs. 639 was realised as hire of elephants against Rs. 646 in 1113.

Sylviculture.

During the year the natural regeneration of superior junglewood species such as teak, blackwood, *vengai*, *thembavu*, *irul*, *venteak*, *anjili* and *maruthu* was satisfactory except in certain parts in the Central and Quilon Divisions where the continued drought and the irregularity of the monsoons retarded the work. At the commencement of the year, there were 14,827·16 acres under teak plantation. An area of 538 acres was planted with teak during the year at an average cost of Rs. 1·62 per acre against 593 acres at an average cost of Rs. 1·03 per acre in 1113. The total area of the teak plantations at the end of the year was 15,365·16 acres. The *taungya* system of raising plantations followed by the department for the past several years was continued with satisfactory results. The receipts from the teak plantations by the sale of logs, poles, saplings, etc., amounted to Rs. 93,080 against Rs. 55,662 in 1113. This increase in revenue is unprecedented. Despite the damage done by the teak defoliators and the wild elephant, the general condition of the teak plantations was on the whole satisfactory. The area under rubber, cashewnut and casuarina remained the same as in the previous year *viz.*, 143 and 123 and 108 acres respectively. An additional area of 21·10 acres was opened in the Malayattur reserve for *elavu* plantation making a total of 66·10 acres. The area under red gum plantation

was extended from 20 to 25 acres, the new area being at Peermade. Cultural operations such as climber cutting and weeding were carried on as usual. The experimental cultivation of teak from seeds of different origin was continued. The cultivation of sandal, mahogany, papita, *berrya ammonilla*, *ailanthus grandis*, camphor, sal, eucalyptus, tungoil plants and kongu was also continued. The growth of *beedi* leaf plant in the Shencotta Division was very satisfactory and encouraging results are expected from the propagation of beedi leaf plant in the State. To help the Forest Department in this venture, steps are being taken to get a Deputy Ranger of the department trained at Hyderabad in the technique of beedi leaf cultivation and allied processes. The cultivation of lac introduced as an experiment in the Vilavankod and Neyyattinkara Ranges in 1113 was continued on a bigger scale during the year. During the year under report particular attention was paid to the opening of experimental softwood plantations to strengthen the resources of the State in the matter of supply of softwoods from natural forests. A regular programme for the artificial regeneration particularly of softwood species is under preparation. The object is to propagate the species on a systematic scale to yield a substantial and continuous yield.

Forest Protection.

The total number of forest offences reported during the year was 1,081 against 1,057 in 1113. Including 309 cases pending disposal at the beginning of the year, there were 1,390 cases for disposal against 1,444 in the previous year. Of these, 433 were disposed of by the magistracy, 642 cases were compounded and 18 cases were withdrawn leaving a balance of 297 cases pending at the close of the year. Of the cases disposed of by the magistracy, 416 ended in conviction and 17 in acquittal. The largest number of cases related as usual to illicit collection of timber both from the reserved forests and the lands at the disposal of Government. The total number of cases in reserved forests rose from 715 in 1113 to 800 in 1114. Measures were taken to protect an area of 2,173 sq. miles and 463 acres from fire at a cost of Rs. 6,067 but an area of 163 acres of reserved forests and lands was overrun by fire against 10 acres in 1113. No serious damage was caused by the fire.

An area of 248 sq. miles and 88 acres was closed for the whole year to the grazing of all animals and an extent of 280 sq. miles and 260 acres was closed to goats only. The total area of reserved forests open to the grazing of all animals was 2,112 sq. miles and 144 acres.

Protection of Game.

The game preservation work of the department was continued under the control of the Game warden. Steps were taken during the year towards making the Sanctuary more attractive and affording greater convenience and facilities to tourists and visitors. During the year His Highness the Maharaja and party visited the National Park and camped there on two occasions. His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner and other distinguished personages from outside also visited the place. The Peermade Game Association continued to function during the year, with the Game Warden as the Honorary Secretary. There were 44 members on its rolls against 48 in the previous year.

Miscellaneous.

The Sales Officer who was appointed in 1112 to conduct the auction sale of timber in all the important sales depots functioned throughout the year. As a result of his work there has been improvement during the year in the revenue realised by the sale of timber. The Working Plan Officer has completed his plan for the Teak Plantations and the Sandalwood areas in the State. His reports are awaited. As a result of the ethnographic survey conducted by Mr. L. A. Krishna Aiyar, the first volume of the "Tribes and Castes of Travancore" was published during 1113. During the year under review Mr. Krishna Aiyar was engaged in the publication of the second volume of this series. As a sequel to these two volumes it is proposed to issue another volume under the caption "The Aborigines of Travancore."

Development Director.

Dr. S. Kamesam, Hon. D. SC. (Andhra), B. E. (Mech. M. E. (Hons.), M. I. E. (Ind.), continued as the Director of Development throughout the year.

Functions and Work Done.

Research on the following subjects was inaugurated during the year:—

1. Cement sawdust building elements.
2. Adhesives for wood to wood, wood to metal employing rubber latex, tamarind seed, casein and tapioca starch as basic raw materials.

3. Softening of wood for pencils, and of wood veneers.
4. Reinforcement of cement concrete with bamboo or wood.
5. Reinforcement of cement or lime plaster on wood.
6. Inexpensive weather resisting media attached to wood.
7. Timber joints with bamboo rings.
8. Development of cheap but efficient fire-proofing paints.
9. Imparting certain colours to Ascu wood preservative
10. Manufacture of inexpensive wood plastics

Propaganda and Demonstration.

Considerable propaganda and demonstration works were carried out during the year. The Sri Chitra Exhibition held in connection with the Birthday of His Highness the Maharaja afforded a suitable occasion for this purpose. Roof trusses of 50′ span, a pre-fabricated portable wooden house, several models of roof trusses and bridges, and samples of wood wool block boards were among the exhibits, illustrating the engineering activities of the department. Fencings of different kinds, pre-fabricated parquet panel, toys and a few typical laminated wood products were a few of the articles exhibited to demonstrate the possibilities of wood-using industries.

Among the substantial engineering works undertaken by the department may be mentioned the Thottapalli bridge, a 100′ span bridge of the bowstring type with an 'I' cross-section claimed to be the lightest and least expensive type of highway bridge, the store shed for the Development Department, the retiring room of the Dewan attached to the Legislative Chamber building and a semi-circular office building for the use of the Director of Development. A very economical type of foot-bridge was made and supplied to the Drainage Department.

Hard woods.

In the past, the sale of hardwoods especially *kambagom*, *karanjili*, *kolavu* and *gnaval* species from Travancore forests was confined chiefly to British Indian markets in Tinnevelly, Ramnad and Madras Districts. During the year the department interested itself to some extent in the sale of these hardwoods in places other than the abovementioned. As a preliminary to this, the department worked for and obtained concessions in timber freight on the South Indian Railway to Madras and

some neighbouring towns. This was followed by negotiations ending in a contract with a Madras Firm of timber merchants, Messrs. M. Doraiswamy Iyengar and Bros., for the purchase of a minimum of 2,80,000 cubic feet annually of different species of Travancore hardwoods.

The department was handicapped particularly in its factory work by the unavoidable delay in procuring the required machinery and laboratory equipment. But the bridge and building works in which the department was engaged during the year have, besides demonstrating the suitability and economy involved in the use of treated timber for such works, gone a long way towards dispelling popular prejudices against the use of wood for major engineering structures.

Ascu Treatment.

The plant was under the control of the Forest Department till 16th Makaram 1114 when it was transferred to the Development Department together with the staff, etc. The plant was worked for 53 days till its transfer to the Development Department and treated 17,336 cubic feet of timber and 1,450 sq. ft. of bamboo matting. Under the Development Department timber treatment was organised on a systematic basis and activities in this line were extended to a large degree. By the end of the year there were 5 Ascu treating plants, four being portable. For constructing the Thottapalli spillway bridge, 4,025 c. ft. of *maruthu* was treated and handed over to the Public Works Department. The total number of electrical and telephone poles treated was 3,622 while 3,500 fence posts of casuarina were treated. The volume of other timber treated was 22,000 c. ft.

At the instance of Dr. Kamesam, a Forest Development Conference was convened during the year which was attended by the Conservator of Forests, Technical Assistant to the Director of Development and all the Divisional Forest Officers. 18 resolutions were passed at the Conference covering a variety of topics and designed to develop the forest resources and thus enhance the forest revenue. These resolutions are under the consideration of Government.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The gross revenue of the department deducting refunds on *kudivila* was Rs. 14,97,332 against Rs. 14,20,862 in 1113. The expenditure rose from Rs. 7,53,357 in 1113 to Rs. 9,03,816. The net revenue of the department (including Development Department) was Rs. 5,93,516.

Stamps.

Control.

The administrative control of the Stamps Department which vested in the Accountant-General was transferred to and vested in the Financial Secretary to Government who was appointed as *ex-officio* Superintendent of Stamps from the beginning of the year 1114. The Stamp Manufactory is under the immediate charge of a Superintendent and the Central Stamp Depot under the Divisional Treasury Officer, Trivandrum, who is *ex-officio* "the Officer in charge, Central Stamp Depot." Stamps are printed at the manufactory and sent over to the depot wherefrom they are issued to other Divisional Treasuries and to the various Sub-Treasuries for sale.

Manufacture of Stamps.

The value of stamp printing work done during the last three years is shown in the following statement:—

S. No	Description of stamps.	Number printed.		
		1112	1113	1114
1	General stamps	288,731	349,110	331,161
2	One anna receipt stamps	840,000	720,000	1,020,000
3	Foreign bill stamps	30,360	10,680	50,880
4	Private documents (embossed)	21,230	22,444	23,255
5	Court fee stamp papers	25,301	88,558	142,000
6	Court fee labels	1,623,840	797,800	2,012,340
7	Copying papers (ordinary)	833,000	765,449	1,106,260
8	Do. (service)	28,500	46,500	69,000
9	Anchal stamps	5,711,076	5,696,628	6,535,200
10	Anchal covers	2,998,133	3,622,509	4,009,495
11	Anchal cards	2,781,976	2,447,472	4,071,256
12	Service Anchal stamps	1,863,876	2,623,264	3,089,280
13	Special adhesive stamps	108	..	2,400
14	Share transfer stamps	17,160	9,048	6,000
	Total	17,066,291	17,199,462	22,458,527

The value of stamps, stamp papers etc., printed during the year amounted to Rs. 24·22 lakhs against Rs. 22·55 lakhs in 1113. The issues from the Central Stamp Depot were to the extent of Rs. 24·61 lakhs. The closing balance of stamps in stock in the Stamp Manufactory and in the Central Stamp Depot together amounted in value to Rs. 62·95 lakhs against Rs. 65·25 lakhs at the close of 1113.

Receipts and Expenditure. The receipts and expenditure of the department during the past three years are given below :–

Particulars.	1112	1113	1114
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts	23,34,735	21,40,157	20,85,192
Deduct-Refunds	91,589	1,03,640	71,718
Net receipts	22,43,146	20,36,517	20,13,474
Expenditure	84,551	71,325	95,073
Share debitable to the Anchal Department	27,960	31,971	32,253
Net expenditure	56,591	39,354	62,820

CHAPTER V.

JUSTICE AND CRIME.

Chief Justice, High Court.	*Rao Bahadur Rajanitinipuna A. Varghese B. A., B. L.*
Judge, High Court.	*Mr. Joseph Taliath, M. A. Barrister-at-Law.*
,, ,,	*Mr. K. P. Gopala Menon, Barrister--at-Law. (Till 19-2-1114.)*
,, ,,	*Mr. G. Parameswaran Pillai, B. A., B. L. (Till Kanni .1114)*
,, ,,	*Mr. K. Sankarasubba Aiyar, B. A., B. L.*
,, ,,	*Mr. H. Ramakrishna Aiyar, B. A., B. L. (From 8-2-1114).*
,, ,,	*Mr. C. Madhavan Pillai, B. A., B. L. (From 10-2-1114).*
,, ,,	*Mr. K. K. Lukose, B. A., B. L. (From 20-2-1114).*

Judicial System.

The judicial administration of the State rests with the High Court, except in the matter of offences committed by European British subjects, for which there are special courts in the State, established by law. Subject to this exception, the High Court is the highest civil and criminal court in the land and has the power of adjudication over suits of the highest value and criminal cases of the most serious nature. Decisions in some important civil and criminal cases, such as decrees in suits to the value of five thousand rupees and above and capital and life sentences, are subject to confirmation by the Ruler, application for which is transmitted through the Dewan, such confirmation being a matter of course. The High Court has no original jurisdiction. In appeals, however, questions of fact as well as of law are adjudicated upon. Until 1894, there was a "Royal Court of

Final Appeal" corresponding, more or less, to the judicial committee of the Privy Council in England. This court has since been abolished, but the functions of such a committee are to some extent exercised by a Full Bench of the High Court which, when so acting, passes judgments in the form of advice to the Ruler. Below the High Court are the District and Sessions Courts which are the highest courts of original jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters. Below these District and Sessions Courts are the courts of the Munsiffs and the Village Panchayat Courts for the trial of civil cases, and the courts of the magistrates including benches of honorary magistrates for the trial of criminal cases. Munsiffs' Courts and Village Panchayat Courts have only original jurisdiction; and, generally speaking, the jurisdiction of the Munsiff extends up to suits to the value of two thousand rupees, and that of the Village Panchayat Court up to fifty rupees. Suits tried by the Village Panchayat Courts are of a small cause nature and the decisions are not subject to appeal, although the District Courts have the power to revise them to a limited extent. Munsiffs also try some classes of suits as small cause suits, the decisions being subject only to revision by the High Court. The decisions of the Munsiffs in other suits are subject to regular appeals which lie either to the High Court or to the District Court according as the value of the suit is above one thousand rupees or not. For the administration of criminal justice, there are, below the Sessions Courts, the magistrates of three classes, some of whom are honorary. The chief magistrate of a district is the District Magistrate who is a magistrate of the first class and under him are other magistrates of the first class and those of the second and third classes. These last have only original jurisdiction, while magistrates of the first class, including District Magistrates, have original as well as appellate jurisdiction. The appellate authority over magistrates of the second and third class is the District Magistrate and, if specially authorised, any other First Class Magistrate. The appellate authority over First Class Magistrates, including the District Magistrates, is the Sessions Court. District and certain First Class Magistrates, are Land Revenue Officers as well; but, except in a few cases where the Tahsildars are empowered to exercise magisterial functions in their respective taluks, all magistrates of the second or third class and some of the First

Class Magistrates are magistrates exclusively and have no revenue functions. The stipendiary magistrates are mostly graduates-in-law. The criminal judiciary in the State in respect of offences committed by European British subjects consists of Special Magistrates and a Special Appellate Judge appointed under Sign Manual by virtue of certain Proclamations. Special Magistrates exercise original jurisdiction; and the Special Appellate Judge exercises appellate and revisional powers over them. None of them can, however, award any punishment higher than imprisonment extending up to three months or fine up to one thousand rupees or both. If, in the opinion of the Special Magistrate taking cognisance of a case, the offence is one that cannot be tried by him or be adequately punished by him, he has to commit the offender for trial to the High Court of Madras.

Recruitment.

The entire judiciary is recruited from the ranks of duly qualified members of the service or the bar. Judges of the High Court are appointed by the Ruler; and they are ordinarily selected from among the District Judges or leading members of the bar. District Judges are appointed by Government, in consultation with the High Court. Munsiffs are likewise appointed by Government, on the recommendation of the High Court. District Judges and Munsiffs are removable for misconduct only after a formal enquiry by a commission, duly appointed by the High Court, with the sanction of the Ruler. The Judges and Munsiffs are, without exception, graduates-in-law or barristers-at-law. The courts are free from interference on the part of the executive authorities. Suits against Government are of every day occurrence; and they regard the decisions as binding on them, the courts being authorised by law to issue executions against Government.

Security of Service.

Independence.

Criminal Justice.

Tribunals.

During the year under review, there were 76 criminal courts, as in the previous year. These comprised the High Court, 6 Sessions Courts, 9 Additional Sessions Courts, 3 District Magistrates' Courts, 1 Additonal District Magistrate's Court, 16

First Class Magistrates' Courts, 29 Second Class Magistrates' Courts, 5 First Class Bench Magistrates' Courts and 6 Second Class Bench Magistrates' Courts. The District Magistrate's Court at Devicolam was abolished; and a Special First Class Magistrate's Court was established at Kottarakara.

Crimes.

Offences.

The total number of offences reported during the year fell from 28,922 in 1113 to 26,921 in 1114 or by 2,001 and that returned as true from 28,356 to 26,327 or by 2,029. The number of offences reported under the Penal Code fell from 10,157 in 1113 to 8,156 in 1114 and those under special and local laws from 18,199 to 18,171. The percentage of offences under the Penal Code to the total number also fell from 36·58 in 1113 to 31·88 in 1114 while that of offences under special and local laws rose from 63·42 to 68·34. The total number of cases rejected *in limine* fell from 426 to 379 while those struck off as false rose from 140 in 1113 to 215 in 1114. The percentage of true to reported cases fell from 98·04 in the previous year to 90·04 in 1114. The decrease in the number of offences under the Penal Code occurred chiefly in respect of hurt, theft and criminal force and assault while the increase was mainly in respect of offences against the State, offences relating to public servants and causing miscarriage. Of the number of cases reported under special and local laws, 228 were offences coming under the Criminal Law Amendment Act, I of 1114. The number of persons involved in the cases for disposal was 60,483 against 61,096 in 1113 and of these 47,419 or 73·99 were brought to trial against 47,832 or 78·29 in 1113. Of the persons brought to trial, 20,955 or 44·19 per cent. were convicted against 18,638 or 38·96 per cent. in the previous year. The percentage of persons actually convicted to the population of the State was 0·39 against 0·36 in the previous year. Taking the offences under the Penal Code and the special and local laws separately, the number of persons convicted under the Penal Code fell from 3,028 in 1113 to 2,624 in 1114 and the percentage from 11·90 to 9·82 and that convicted under local and special laws rose from 15,610 and 69·75 per cent. in 1113 to 18,331 and 77·31 per cent. in 1114.

Women Offenders.

The number of women offenders involved in cases rose from 3,521 in the previous year to 3,538 and formed 5·84 per cent. of the total number of accused persons against 5·76 per cent. in 1113. Of these, 1,120 or 31·65 per cent. were charged with compoundable offences such as simple hurt, criminal force, assault, trespass etc., as against 1,290 or 36·63 per cent. in 1113. Of the women involved 930 or 26·29 per cent. were convicted against 695 or 19·73 per cent. in the previous year. There was an increase in the number of women convicted for offences against public tranquillity, criminal trespass, murder, attempt and abetment of murder, offences against the Police Act and Weights and Measures Act, the largest number of convictions being for offences under the Police Act.

Juvenile Offenders.

The number of juveniles charged with offences increased from 90 in 1113 to 162 in 1114, of whom 146 were boys and 16 girls. Of the juveniles charged 20 (all boys) were brought to trial and 5 were convicted. All the 5 boys were convicted for theft and they were sent to the Reformatory.

Public Servants.

No public servant was prosecuted during the year while in the previous year 5 were prosecuted by private persons for acts done in their official capacity.

Magistrates' Courts.

Original Work.

The total number of cases for disposal in the Magistrates' Courts during the year was 33,155 affecting 60,483 persons against 33,551 affecting 61,096 persons in the previous year and the number of cases disposed of was 30,094 affecting 50,760 persons against 29,272 cases affecting 50,966 persons in 1113. The arrears at the end of the year were 3,061 cases involving 9,723 persons against 4,279 cases involving 10,130 persons at the end of the previous year.

Bench Magistrates' Courts.

Including arrears and cases received by remand, the total number of cases for disposal was 11,715 affecting 12,673 persons, against 11,611 affecting 13,163 persons in the previous year. The disposals also rose from 9,640 cases in 1113 to 11,187 cases in 1114. The number of cases pending at the

end of the year was 528 against 1,971 at the end of the previous year. The Bench Magistrates' Court at Trivandrum, as usual, disposed of the largest number of cases, followed by Quilon, Nagercoil and Alleppey, while the smallest disposal was at Mavelikara. The average duration of a case from the commencement to the end of the trial was 39 days, against 34 days in 1113. The percentage of conviction rose from 76·71 in 1113 to 79·63 in 1114. The number of witnesses examined in all the courts was 2,103 against 2,401 in the previous year.

Stipendiary Magistrates' Courts.

In the stipendiary magistrates' courts, the number of cases filed fell from 19,250 in 1113 to 18,222 in 1114. The total number of cases including arrears for disposal was 21,440 against 21,940 cases in the previous year, of which 18,907 cases were disposed of during the year against 19,632 cases in 1113, leaving a balance of 2,533 cases pending at the end of the year, against 2,308 at the end of the previous year. Of the cases pending at the close of the year, 1,026 cases were over 3 months old against 975 such cases at the close of 1113. The average disposal of a stipendiary magistrate was 386 against 401 in 1113. Excluding the delay in arresting the accused persons and the investigation by the police of cases referred to them, the average duration of a case was 43 days for preliminary enquiries and 31 days for trials, against 41 and 23 days, respectively, in the previous year. The stipendiary magistrates examined 45,592 witnesses against 51,516 in 1113 or on an average 930 witnesses, against 1,051 in the previous year. 449 witnesses were detained between 1 and 3 days and two witnesses between 5 and 10 days. The number of persons involved in the preliminary enquiries disposed of by the stipendiary magistrates was 2,244 of whom 457 were committed to the Sessions Courts against 441 in 1113. The number of persons involved in the trials was 36,500 against 37,889 in 1113 of whom 11,168 persons were convicted or 25·24 per cent. of the number involved against 26.44 per cent. in 1113. Of the persons convicted, 7,645 or 68·45 per cent. were sentenced to fine only against 8,421 or 84·42 per cent. in 1113. Two persons were sentenced to solitary confinement, as in the previous year.

Appellate Work.

Ten Magistrates exercised appellate jurisdiction, against 11 in the previous year, the District Magistrate's Court at Devicolam having been abolished during the year. Including the cases pending at the close of the previous year and those received by remand, there were 622 appeals for disposal against 810 in 1113. The number of appeals disposed of fell from 706 in 1113 to 522 in 1114 and the number of cases pending at the close of the year also fell from 104 to 100. The average duration of an appeal rose from 45 days in 1113 to 58 days in 1114. The largest average duration, *viz.*, 144 days was in the Trivandrum District Magistrate's Court, while the shortest duration *viz.*, 15 days, was in the Quilon District Magistrate's Court and the Trivandrum Division First Class Magistrate's Court. In 55·75 of the cases appealed against, the findings and sentences were confirmed, against 47·73 in 1113. The percentage of cases in which conviction was quashed and acquittal ordered was 24·33, the percentage for 1113 being 24·36. In 0·57 per cent. of the appeals, conviction was quashed and retrial ordered. In 16·67 per cent. of the appeals, either the conviction or sentence or both were altered, against 22·81 in the previous year.

Revisional Work.

The number of appeals for revision, including those received by the District Magistrates, was 10 as in the previous year; and all were disposed of during the year. The number of calendars received for revision by the District Magistrates was 6,262; and, including the number pending at the end of the previous year, the total number for disposal was 6,286. All the calendars were disposed of during the year.

Miscellaneous Work.

The number of cases that came up for disposal before the Magistrates' Courts in the exercise of their preventive and miscellaneous jurisdiction fell from 915 in 1113 to 888 in 1114; but the number of persons involved rose from 2,684 in 1113 to 3,234 in 1114. The number of cases disposed of was 569, against 554 in the previous year. The number of persons convicted fell from 185 in 1113 to 156 in 1114 and formed 4·82 per cent. of the number dealt with, against 5·52 per cent. in the previous year. Seventy-eight persons were called upon to

give security for breach of peace of whom 52 suffered imprisonment for failure to give security. Of the 15 persons bound over for good behaviour, 12 suffered imprisonment for failure to furnish security. Five persons were summarily dealt with for preferring false or vexatious complaints against 16 persons in the previous year.

Fines.

The fines and fees realised by Magistrates' Courts during the year amounted to Rs. 52,863 against Rs. 48,945 in 1113.

Sessions Courts.

Original Work.

The number of cases committed to the Sessions Courts rose from 258 in 1113 to 276 and the number of persons involved therein also increased from 458 to 708 in 1114. The total number of cases for trial was 304 against 285 in the previous year. Of these, 277 cases were disposed of, leaving a balance of 27 cases at the end of the year, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 258 and 27. The pendency was 17 at Quilon, 4 at Trivandrum, 3 at Kottayam, 2 at Alleppey and 1 at Nagercoil. Ten cases at Quilon, 3 at Kottayam and 1 each at Alleppey and Nagercoil were more than three months old. The average duration of a sessions case from the date of receipt of records till disposal was a little over 22 days, against 34 days in 1113 while the duration from the commencement to the end of the trial was 13 days, against 15 days in 1113. The Sessions Courts examined 3,653 witnesses against 3,774 in 1113 of whom 1,009 were examined within 3 days and 292 after 3 days. The percentage of conviction to the number of persons involved fell from 44·66 in 1113 to 28·87 in 1114. The extreme penalty of the law was awarded in 3 cases against 5 in the previous year. Rigorous imprisonment for life was awarded in 23 cases against 17 in 1113. The amount of fines imposed by the Sessions Courts rose from Rs. 3,181 in 1113 to Rs. 4,859 in 1114. Including outstandings, the amount to be realised during the year was Rs. 11,324 of which a sum of Rs. 403 was realised, Rs. 410 remitted on appeal and Rs. 475 was struck off as irrecoverable. The balance pending recovery at the end of the year was Rs. 10,036 against Rs. 6,465 at the end of 1113.

Appellate Work.

The number of appeals for disposal by the Sessions Courts fell from 447 in 1113 to 310 in 1114 and the arrears at the end of the year also fell from 114 to 37. The average duration of an appeal rose from 119 days in 1113 to 127 days in 1114, the longest duration being 295 days at Nagercoil and the shortest 49 days at Alleppey. The disposal of appeals resulted in the confirmation of the findings and sentences in 28·20 per cent. of the decisions of the superior magistrates, against 36·33 per cent. in 1113, and in modification of findings and sentences in 19·41 per cent. Retrial was ordered in 7·33 per cent. of the cases. The percentage of acquittal in reversal of conviction was 44·69, against 39·63 in 1113.

Miscellaneous.

The number of calendars on appeal statements for revision was 4,495 against 8, 205 in 1113 of which 4,494 were disposed of during the year.

High Court.

Referred Trials.

Including 8 cases pending at the beginning of the year, there were 32 referred trials for disposal during the year, against 26 cases in 1113. Of these, 21 cases were disposed of, leaving a balance of 11 cases at the end of the year. Death sentence was confirmed in one case, while it was commuted to life imprisonment in the case of two persons. Sentence was enhanced to one of death in the case of one person. Rigorous imprisonment for life was confirmed in the case of 14 persons. The conviction was altered to one for a less heinous offence and lighter punishment awarded in the case of 6 persons ; and conviction was quashed and acquittal ordered in the case of one person. The average duration of a referred trial rose from 135 days in 1113 to 211 days in 1114.

Appeals.

The number of appeals preferred to the High Court rose from 211 in 1113 to 233 in 1114 and 227 of them were against decisions of the Sessions Judges against 207 in 1113, the appeals preferred from the decisions of the magistrates being 6 against 4 in the previous year. Including the arrears, the number of appeals for disposal was 298, against 295 in 1113 ; and the number disposed of was 175, against 230 in the previous year, leaving a

balance of 123 at the close of the year, against 65 at the close of the previous year. The average duration of an appeal disposed of rose from 127 days in 1113 to 189 days in 1114. The number of appeals defended at Sirkar cost was 32, against 30 in 1113. The subjoined statement shows the result of appeals disposed of in 1113 and 1114 :—

Appeals against conviction.

		1113		1114	
		No.	Percentage.	No.	Percentage.
1	Abated by death of appellant	3	1·31	1	0·57
2	Interference declined	81	35·22	85	48·57
3	Conviction altered and sentence confirmed	..	..	3	1·71
4	Sentence altered with or without altering conviction	48	20·87	34	19·43
5	Appeal rejected but sentence enhanced in revision or appeal by Government	28	12·17	11	6·29
6	Conviction quashed and acquittal ordered	36	15·65	22	12·57
7	Royal clemency exercised	..	..	2	1·14
8	Included in the list of long-pending cases	...	..	1	0·57

Appeals against acquittal.

		1113		1114	
		No.	Percentage.	No.	Percentage.
1	Interference declined	28	12·17	6	3·43
2	Acquittal set aside and conviction entered	5	2·17	1	0·57
3	Acquittal set aside and retrial ordered	1	0·44	3	1·72
4	Otherwise disposed of (enhanced)	...	.	6	3·43

Of the appeals preferred to the High Court, 28 were by Government, against 30 in 1113. The number of appeals by Government for disposal during the year was 34, against 40 in 1113, of which, 16 were disposed of.

The total number of revision cases for disposal fell from 1,130 in 1113 to 1,035 in 1114, of which, 511 cases were disposed of during the year, against 629 in 1113. The number of calendars and appeal statements received fell from 2,136 in 1113 to 1,263 in 1114. Of 70 applications for transfer of cases from one court to another, 52 were disposed of. The number of miscellaneous petitions for bail disposed of rose from 90 to 119 in 1114 and the number allowed also rose from 82 in 1113 to 103 in 1114.

Miscellaneous.

Extradition.

The number of persons extradited to British India and the Cochin State at the instance of the Resident for the Madras States was 16. Forty-five persons were surrendered to the State from British India and the Cochin State, of whom, 24 were convicted, 4 discharged and the cases against the remaining 17 were pending at the end of the year. The principal offences with which the accused were charged were robbery, grievous hurt, dacoity, etc.

Civil Justice.

The number of courts exercising civil jurisdiction was the same as in the previous year, namely, 78, comprising of the High Court, 6 District Courts, 4 Second Judges' Courts, 5 Temporary Second Judges' Courts, 35 District Munsiffs' Courts, 5 Temporary Munsiffs' Courts and 22 Village Panchayat Courts. As the arrears in the District and Munsiffs' Courts continued to be heavy, the temporary courts were continued throughout the year. One of the Temporary Second Judges' Courts working at Trivandrum was shifted to Kottayam towards the close of the year. There was one civil court for every 98 sq. miles of the area and 65,333 inhabitants of the State.

Number of Civil Courts.

The volume of litigation in the years 1113 and 1114 is shown in the subjoined statement:—

Civil Litigation in General.

Name of court.	Original Suits.		Appeals.	
	1113.	1114.	1113.	1114.
Village Panchayat Courts .	7,830	7,172	..	..
Munsiffs' Courts .	45,576	43,405	..	..
District Courts .	804	1,063	3,979	3,648
High Court .	..	..	1,527	1,302
Total .	54,210	51,640	5,506	4,950

The total number of suits was 56,590, against 59,716 in 1113, the decrease being 3,126 or 5·234 per cent. The fall in the number of original suits was 2,570 and, in appellate cases, 556. Original suits instituted during the year showed a decrease of 17,405 from the average for the preceding quinquennium. The fall in the volume of litigation was more marked in the years subsequent to 1110; and this fall is apparently due to the passing of the Jenmi and Kudiyan Act, the acute economic depression and the establishment of conciliation boards. One original suit was filed for every 99 persons, against one suit for every 94 persons in 1113. The number of ordinary suits fell from 28,027 in 1113 to 27,119 and small cause suits from 26,183 in 1113 to 24,521 in 1114. While the districts of Nagercoil, Trivandrum, Quilon and Alleppey recorded a fall in the number of ordinary suits filed, the districts of Kottayam and Parur recorded a marked increase. There was a fall in respect of suits relating both to money or movable property and relating to land, the decrease being 3,548 and 2,918, respectively. The aggregate value of suits instituted during the year was Rs. 1·15 crores, against Rs. 1·22 crores in 1113. The average value of a suit was Rs. 222, against Rs. 226 in 1113 and Rs. 230 in 1112. There was a slight rise in suits below Rs. 30, between Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2,000, between 2,000 to Rs. 5,000 and above Rs. 5,000; but as in the previous year, the largest fall was in suits of value between Rs, 100 and Rs. 500. Small cause suits constituted

44·03 per cent. of the total litigation, against 43·85 per cent. in 1113.

Original Litigation.

Original Work. A statement showing the details of the disposal and pendency of ordinary suits and small cause suits in the several classes of courts in the State during 1113 and 1114 is given below :—

Name of Court.	Nature of suit.	Total No. for disposal including arrears,		No. Disposed of.	
		1113	1114	1113	1114
Village Panchayat Courts	Small Causes	10,236	10,142	7,858	7,866
Munsiffs' Courts	Small Causes	25,438	24,304	19,587	18,734
	Ordinary Suits	60,700	59,466	31,404	30,652
	Total	86,138	83,770	50,991	49,386
District Courts	Small Causes	191	384	107	229
	Ordinary Suits	3,025	2,934	1,023	938
	Total	3,216	3,318	1,130	1,167
	Grand Total	99,590	97,230	59,979	58,419

Name of Court.	Nature of suit.	No. pending disposal at the close of		Average duration in days.			
				Contested cases.		Uncontested cases.	
		1113	1114	1113	1114	1113	1114
Village Panchayat Courts	Small Causes	2,378	2,276	126	176	54	51
Munsiffs' Courts	Small Causes	5,851	5,570	..	..	..	..
	Ordinary suits	29,296	28,814	582	509	160	152
	Total	35,147	34,384	..	..	..	..
District Courts	Small Causes	84	155	.	..	..	..
	Ordinary suits	2,002	1,996	1,367	1,383	493	251
	Total	2,086	2,151	..	..	..	..
	Grand Total	39,611	38,811	..	..	..	..

Village Panchayat Courts.

The total number of suits filed in the Village Panchayat Courts fell from 7,830 in 1113 to 7,172 and formed 13.89 per cent. of the total original litigation, against 14.44 percent. in 1113 and 15.38 per cent. in 1112. There was a corresponding fall in their aggregate and average value from Rs. 1,51,816 and Rs. 19.39 in 1113 to Rs. 1,35,409 and Rs.18.88 respectively, in 1114. The largest number of suits filed was in Trivandrum, Nagercoil, Parur and Quilon, following in order. The number of suits pending at the close of the year was 2,276, against 2, 378 at the end of the previous year.

Munsiffs' Courts.

The total number of suits filed in the Munsiffs' Courts was 43,405 against 45,576 in 1113 and formed 83.82 per cent. of the total original litigation, against 84.07 per cent. in the previous year. The aggregate and average value of suits filed were Rs. 80.49 lakhs and Rs. 185.43, against Rs. 85.80 lakhs and Rs. 188.27 in 1113. The percentage of disposal of contested ordinary suits to the total disposal of ordinary suits was 44.49, against 44.70 in 1113 and that of contested small cause suits to the total disposal of small cause suits was 19.28, against 20.74 in the previous year. Of the cases disposed of on the merits, those decreed in favour of the plaintiffs formed 85.71 per cent., against 86.88 per cent. in 1113. The total arrears in the Munsiffs' Courts fell from 35,147 at the end of 1113 to 34,384 at the end of 1114.

District Courts.

The number of ordinary suits filed in the District Courts formed 1.51 per cent. of the total volume of original litigation against 1.10 per cent. in 1113. The average value of a suit fell from Rs. 4,754 in 1113 to Rs. 4,178. The number of suits disposed of was 35.17 per cent. of the number for disposal, against 35.13 in 1113. The number of contested ordinary suits disposed of formed 73.24 per cent. of the total disposal of ordinary suits, against 72.82 per cent. in 1113. Of the ordinary suits disposed of, 66.83 per cent. related to land, against 70.77 per cent. in the previous year. The average disposal of ordinary suits in all the District Courts and Second Judges' Courts during the year was 63, against 68 in the previous year. The arrears at the end of the year were 2,151 against 2,086 in 1113 of which 1,996 were ordinary suits and

155 small causes. There was a fall in the total arrears of suits of more than one year's duration from 1,453 to 1,409 and a rise in suits between 1 and 2 years' duration from 413 to 429. There was a fall from 1040 to 980 in suits of more than 2 years' duration and of these 330 were more than five years' duration, against 397 in the previous year. The number of references received under the Land Acquisition Act was 236, against 57 in the previous year, the number disposed of during the year being 131, against 85 in the previous year.

Execution of Decrees.

The number of applications for execution of decrees for disposal, the number disposed of and the number pending at the close of the year and their average duration in the years 1113 and 1114 are shown in the following statement:—

Name of Court.	No. for disposal.		No. disposed of.	
	1113	1114	1113	1114
Village Panchayat Courts	9,660	8,918	9,026	8,077
Munsiff's Courts	143,914	133,495	107,649	97,722
District Courts	4,319	4,573	2,212	2,209
Total	157,893	146,986	118,887	108,008

Name of Court.	Balance pending at the close of the year.		Average duration in days of applications.			
			Ordinary suits.		Small causes.	
	1113	1114	1113	1114	1113	1114
Village Panchayat Courts	634	841	..	..	19	22
Munsiff's Courts	36,265	35,773	104	106	55	56
District Courts	2,107	2,364	216	230	101	131
Total	39,006	38,978	..	..	..	..

The percentage of applications in which full satisfaction was obtained to the total disposal was 8·68 and that of applications in which partial satisfaction was obtained was 16·49, against 8·80 and 17·12 respectively in 1113. The number of applications which proved wholly infructuous was 75,544 or 69·94 per cent. of the total disposal, against 81,414 or 68.48 per cent. in 1113. The amount realised by issue of processes was Rs. 22·95 lakhs against Rs. 27·73 lakhs in 1113 and that realised without issue of process was Rs. 3·72 lakhs, against Rs. 4·03 lakhs in 1113. The number of applications for execution of decrees pending at the end of the year was 38,978, against 39,006 in 1113. Judgment debtors were imprisoned in 399 cases against 488 in the previous year. The number of cases in which immovable property was sold fell from 4,536 to 4,037 while those in which movable properties were sold rose from 532 in 1113 to 610 in 1114. Specific performance was enforced in 62 cases, against 2 in the previous year. The number of decrees received from the Cochin State for execution in Travancore courts decreased from 20 to 7 while those received from the British Indian courts rose from 65 in 1113 to 69 in 1114. Decrees were sent to Cochin in 13 cases and to the British Indian courts in 10 cases for execution, against 25 and 15 in 1113.

Miscellaneous.

In addition to the items of work detailed above the District Courts had to dispose of miscellaneous work such as petitions under the Insolvency, the Succession Certificate and the Guardians and Wards Acts and civil miscellaneous petitions. The total number of civil miscellaneous petitions rose from 49,878 in 1113 to 49,948 and the number disposed of from 49,120 in 1113 to 49,142 in 1114, the pendency at the close of the year being 806, against 758 at the end of the previous year. The Munsiff's Courts had to deal with 355,232 civil miscellaneous petitions, against 337,943 in 1113 of which 350,226 were disposed of leaving 5,006 pending at the close of the year, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 333,209 and 4,734. The number of cases received in the District Courts under the Insolvency, Succession Certificate and Guardian and Wards Acts fell from 347 in 1113 to 332 in 1114. The total number of such petitions for disposal during the year was 736, against 722 in the previous year, of which, 403 were disposed of during the year.

Appellate Jurisdiction.

The number of appeals for disposal including cross objections and miscellaneous appeals fell from 7,326 in 1113 to 7,177 in 1114, while those disposed of rose from 4,077 in 1113 to 4,310 in 1114. The number of cases pending at the end of the year was 2,867, against 3,249 at the end of the previous year. Of the regular appeals disposed of, 1,183 related to land, against 1,149 in 1113. The average duration of regular appeals contested and uncontested was 342 and 158 days, respectively, against 354 and 179 days in 1113. The duration of contested and uncontested regular appeals was longest at Kottayam (450 days) and Nagercoil (290 days). The total pendency of regular appeals fell from 2,351 in 1113 to 2,086 in 1114. Except a slight rise at Nagercoil and Alleppey, the pendency in all other courts showed a fall. Of the regular appeals, 16 were more than 5 years old, 129 more than 2 years old, 451 between 1 and 2 years and all the rest were below 1 year old. Appeals of more than two years' duration fell from 184 in 1113 to 129 in 1114 and those of more than 5 years' duration from 22 to 16.

District Courts.

The subjoined statement compares the file, disposal and pendency of first and second appeals in the High Court during the year 1113 and 1114:—

High Court.

	1113			1114		
	First appeals.	Second appeals.	Total.	First appeals.	Second appeals.	Total.
No. for disposal	2,189	2,199	4,388	2,123	1,798	3,921
No. disposed of on merits	595	762	1,357	572	544	1,116
No, disposed of otherwise	73	75	148	119	114	233
Total disposal	668	837	1,505	69	658	1,349
Remaining at the close of the year	1,521	1,362	2,883	1,432	1,140	2,572

The number of appeals for disposal fell from 4,388 in 1113 to 3,921 in 1114 or by 467. The percentage of the number of appeals disposed of to the total number for disposal was

34.40, against 34.29 in 1113. The average duration of a first appeal was 795 days and that of a second appeal 842 days, against 825 and 840 days respectively, in the previous year. The number of cross objections for disposal fell from 269 in 1113 to 254 and that of miscellaneous appeals from orders fell from 721 to 661. Of these, 62 cross objections and 291 miscellaneous appeals were disposed of, against 75 and 341, respectively, in 1113. The number of applications for review of judgments for disposal was 164, against 161 in the previous year of which 75 were disposed of against 44 in 1113. The number of civil miscellaneous petitions and civil revision petitions for disposal during the year fell from 5,138 to 4,803 and the number disposed of also fell from 3,346 to 2,559.

Quality of work of the Lower Courts.

The percentage of appeals from decrees of Munsiffs to the number of contested ordinary suits disposed of by them fell from 21·33 in 1113 to 20·09 in 1114. The percentage of appeals against decrees passed by the District Judges and Second Judges in contested ordinary suits fell from 24·79 in 1113 to 23·29 in 1114 and that of appeals against the appellate decrees of District and Second Judges fell from 23·48 in 1113 to 14·54 in 1114. The percentage of confirmation of Munsiff's decrees as well as modification rose from 51·45 and 16·41 in 1113 to 53·86 and 17·68 in 1114 while that of reversals fell from 32·24 in 1113 to 28·46 in 1114. As regards the original work of District Judges and Second Judges, the percentage of confirmation and modification fell from 52·56 and 31·54 in 1113 to 51·06 and 30·09, respectively, in 1114, while that of reversal rose from 15·90 in 1113 to 18·85 in 1114. In respect of the appellate work of the District and Second Judges, the percentage of confirmation fell from 72·57 in 1113 to 57·72, while that of modification and reversals rose from 11·55 and 15·88 in 1113 to 15·07 and 27·21, respectively, in 1114. Of the decrees of Munsiffs, modified and reversed by the District Judges, the High Court, on second appeal, restored the decisions of the Munsiffs in 67 cases, against 62 in 1113, thereby raising the percentage of confirmation of Munsiffs' decrees from 53·86 to 54·93. In 369 appeals, the suits were remanded to the Munsiffs' Courts by the District Judges for trial and decision *denovo*; and, in 12 appeals, revised findings were called for from the Munsiffs' Courts, as against 22 in 1113.

Government Suits and Appeals.

The number of suits filed in the District Courts to which Government was a party fell from 110 in 1113 to 91 in 1114 and that of appeals in the High Court from 72 in 1113 to 45 in 1114. The total number of such suits for disposal in the District Courts also fell from 424 in 1113 to 419 in 1114. The disposals were 92 in the District Courts and 69 in the High Court, against 102 and 86 in 1113 and formed 21·95 and 29·23 per cent. of the number for disposal. Of the total disposal, 68·18 per cent of the suits and 46·38 per cent. of the appeals were decreed in favour of Government, against 47·06 and 46·51 per cent., respectively, in 1113.

Debt Conciliation Boards.

General.

The Agriculturists' Relief Act was passed during 1112. The Act provides for the establishment of boards for the conciliation of agriculturists' debts and for the reduction, for a period of three years, of the interest to a rate not exceeding six per cent. per annum in the case of secured debts and decree debts, or nine per cent. in the case of unsecured debts. As regards paddy loans, interest is limited to nine per cent. per annum. The arrest of agriculturists in execution of decrees for money has also been abolished except in cases of fraudulent evasion of payment by debtors able to pay.

The eight conciliation boards which were working in 1113 continued to work during 1114. The territorial jurisdiction of some of the boards was extended and re-adjusted.

Progress of Work.

During the year, 3,692 conciliation applications were received by all the boards together, as against 3,166 applications in the previous year. Including the applications pending at the end of the previous year, there were 5,360 applications for disposal; and, of these, 3,981 were disposed of during the year. The value of the debts sought to be conciliated amounted to Rs. 53,30,216 and the value of the claims which were compounded during the year was Rs. 7,20,148. They were compounded for Rs. 5,95,237. The general receipts and expenditure for the year were Rs. 23,102 and Rs. 61,707, respectively.

Finance. The following statement shows the receipts and expenditure on account of Administration of Justice during the years 1113 and 1114:—

Particulars.		1113.	1114.
		Rs.	Rs.
Receipts	..	55,272	56,177
High Court	...	1,43,471	1,47,549
Civil and Sessions Courts	...	7,71,764	7,58,190
Expenditure			
Criminal Courts	...	1,65,214	1,05,586
Government Law Officers	...	1,27,506	1,22,838
Conciliation Boards	...	59,027	61,707
Total	...	12,66,982	11,95,870

THE LEGISLATURE.

The constitution and powers of the Travancore Legislature have been detailed in Chapter II. Fifteen seats in the Sri Mulam Assembly and four in the Sri Chitra State Council were declared vacant in the course of the year under review, the members having been convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for periods of six months or more. One vacancy occurred in the Assembly and one in the Council owing to resignation of membership, duly accepted. Another vacancy arose in the Council owing to a member's acceptance of office under Government. Bye-elections were held during the year to fill up all the 22 vacancies.

Bye-elections.

2. During the year under report, meetings of the Sri Mulam Assembly and the Sri Chitra State Council were held for the first time in the new Legislative Chamber, Public Offices. The Assembly met three times during the year and sat for 20 days in all out of which 16 days were devoted to official business and the rest to non-official business. The Sri Chitra State Council sat for 12 days in all, of which official business was transacted on eight days and non-official business on 4 days.

Meetings.

3. The following official Bills which had been finally read and passed by the Sri Mulam Assemby in 1113, were passed by the Sri Chitra State Council, received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja and became law during the year under report:—

Enactments.

(i) *The Travancore Public Accountants Act (Amendment) Bill* which became law as Act II of 1114 on the 6th Kanni 1114/22nd September 1938. It adds a new section to the existing Public Accountants Act empowering proceedings under the Act being started or continued against the legal representatives of a deceased public accountant.

(ii) *The Travancore Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill* which became law as Act III of 1114 on the 6th Kanni 1114/22nd September 1938 makes two amendments in the Travancore Penal Code, one of which is intended to penalise sedition

against any recognised Indian Prince and the other to penalise deliberate and malicious acts which outrage the religious feelings of any class of people.

(iii) *The Travancore Trade Disputes Bill* which became law as Act V of 1114 on the 6th Kanni 1114/22nd September 1938. It provides for the investigation and settlement of trade disputes by establishing tribunals.

(iv) *The Travancore Abkari Act (Amendment) Bill* which became law as Act VI of 1114 on the 6th Kanni 1114/22nd September 1938. This amending Act is intended to facilitate the prompt detection of offences by investing Petty Officers with power to conduct searches.

(v) *The Travancore Irrigation Act (Amendment) Bill* which became law as Act VII of 1114 on the 6th Kanni 1114/22nd September 1938. The object of this amending Act is to carry out the legislative proposals contained in the report of the Minor Irrigation Committee.

(vi) *The Travancore Factories Bill* which became law as Act VIII of 1114 on the 12th Kanni 1114/28th September 1938. It consolidates and amends the law regulating labour in factories.

(vii) *The Travancore Companies Bill* which became law as Act IX of 1114, on the 14th Kanni 1114/30th September 1938. It consolidates and amends the law relating to trading companies and associations.

The Travancore Hindu Widows Remarriage Bill introduced by a non-official member in the Sri Mulam Assembly, had been passed by the Assembly in 1112. In 1113, that Bill was passed by the Sri Chitra State Council with an amendment which was subsequently accepted by the Assembly. During the year under report, the Bill received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja and became law as Act IV of 1114 dated the 6th Kanni 1114/22nd September 1938.

The following Bills were finally read and passed by both the Chambers of the Legislature during the year and they too received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja and became law :—

(i) *The Travancore Village Panchayat Courts Act (Amendment) Bill* which became law as Act XI of 1114 on the 29th

Kumbhom 1114/13th March 1939. This amending Act prescribes a minimum fee of one chuckram to be levied by way of institution fees.

(ii) *The Travancore Revenue Summons Act (Amendment) Bill* which became law as Act XII of 1114 on the 29th Kumbhom 1114/ 13th March 1939. The object of this amendment is to prescribe the procedure to be followed in cases of refusal to acknowledge service of summons by a person.

(iii) *The Travancore Workmen's Compensation Bill* which received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja as Act XIII of 1114 on the 29th Kumbhom 1114/ 13th March 1939. It provides for the payment by certain classes of employers to their workmen of compensation for injury by accidents.

(iv) *Travancore Markets Act (Amendment) Bill* which became law as Act XIV of 1114 on the 29th Kumbhom 1114/ 13th March 1939. This amending Act makes the Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner the appellate authority in respect of the decisions and orders of the Division Peishkars under the Markets Act, retaining at the same time the revisional powers of the Dewan.

(v) *The Travancore Credit Bank Act (Amendment) Bill* which became law as Act XV of 1114 on the 29th Kumbhom 1114|13th March 1939. The object of this amendment is to empower the Travancore Credit Bank to realise by process under the Revenue Recovery Act the loan amounts of the Travancore State Land Mortgage Bank which was taken over by the Credit Bank under Section 17 of the Act.

(vi) *The Travancore Hindu Inheritance (Removal of Disabilities) Bill* which became law as Act XVIII of 1114 on the 19th Karkatakam 1114/ 4th August 1939. It is intended to amend the Hindu Law of Inheritance as administered in Travancore relating to the exclusion from inheritance of certain class of heirs.

(vii) *The Travancore Insurance Bill* which became law as Act XIX of 1114 on the 29th Karkatakam 1114/14th August 1939. It consolidates and amends the law relating to the business of insurance.

(viii) *The Travancore Telephone Bill* which became law as Act XX of 1114 on the 29th Karkatakam 1114/14th August 1939. It makes provision for the efficient and satisfactory establishment and working of telephones in Travancore.

Of the above Bills No. (vi) *viz.*, the *Travancore Hindu Inheritance (Removal of Disabilities Bill)* was a non-official Bill and all the rest were official Bills.

Besides the above enactments passed through the Assembly and the Council, the following Acts and Proclamations were promulgated direct by His Highness the Maharaja during the year:—

(i) *The Travancore Criminal Law (Amendment) Act I of* 1114, passed on the 9th Chingom 1114/25th August 1938. It provides for the prohibition of associations dangerous to the public peace and also for further supplementing and amending the criminal law of the State.

(ii) *The Travancore Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, X of* 1114, passed on the 23rd Vrischikam 1114/8th December 1938. It further supplements and amends the Criminal law of the State.

(iii) Proclamation issued on the 28th Vrischikam 1114/8th December 1938. It was intended to constitute a special tribunal for the trial of certain persons charged with sedition.

(iv) Proclamation issued on the 17th Makaram 1114/30th January 1939. It amends the schedule to the Proclamation dated the 4th Karkatakam 1093 relating to extradition between Travancore and Cochin, by incorporating offences relating to Currency Notes and Bank Notes.

(v) Proclamation issued on the 5th Meenom 1114/18th March 1939 under which all Regulations have to be styled as Acts.

(vi) *The Travancore Extradition (Amendment) Act, XVI of* 1114, passed on the 19th Medom 1114/2nd May 1939. It amends the Travancore Extradition Act of 1082 (I of 1082) as amended by Acts II of 1094 and II of 1107, by providing for the surrender of persons accused of or undergoing sentence for offence in Travancore and also for the suspension of sentences on surrender.

(vii) *The Travancore Registration of Foreigners Act, XVII of* 1114, passed on the 27th Mithunam 1114/11th July 1939. It provides for the registration of foreigners entering, being present in, and departing from Travancore.

Certain amendments to the Rules and Appendices in the Schedule attached to the Civil Procedure Code, framed by the Rule Committee of the High Court under Section 91 of the Code, were introduced in the Assembly and were considered and passed by that House with a few alterations. These amendments as altered by the Assembly were passed by the Council also during the year, and they were approved by the Government since the close of the year.

Pending Official Bills.

The following official Bills were also considered and passed by both the Houses before the close of the year under report:—

(i) *The Travancore Contract Bill.*

(ii) *The Travancore Arbitration Bill.*

(iii) *The Travancore Partnership Bill.*

(iv) *The Travancore Specific Relief Bill.*

(v) *The Travancore Sale of Goods Bill.*

(vi) *The Travancore Negotiable Instruments Act (Amendment) Bill.*

The above Bills received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja and became law after the year closed.

The Joint Committee to which *the Travancore City Municipal Bill* had been referred, met and submitted its report which was presented to the Assembly as well as the Council during the year. The Joint Committee on *the Travancore District Municipalities Bill* did not meet in the year. The Select Committee to which *the Travancore Medical Registration Bill* had been referred submitted its report, but its consideration was postponed by the Assembly. *The Travancore Equitable Mortgage Bill* was introduced in the Assembly and reported on by a Select Committee of that House but it was recommitted by the Assembly to another Select Committee. *The Travancore Rubber Control Bill*, *the Travancore Maintenance Orders Enforcement Bill* and *the Travancore Bankers' Books Evidence*

Bill were introduced in the Assembly and referred to a Select Committee towards the close of the year.

Pending Non-Official Bills.

The Travancore Krishnanvaka Marumakkathayee Bill intended to define and amend the personal law relating to the Krishnanvaka Marumakkathayees, was introduced in the Council and passed by that House. It was then considered and passed by the Assembly with a few verbal amendments which were subsequently accepted by the Council. The Bill received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja and became law after the close of the year. *The Travancore Child Marriage Restraint Bill* intended to restrain the solemnisation of child marriage was pending before the Assembly at the third reading stage. The Select Committee of the Assembly to which *the Travancore Kammala and the Travancore Viswakarma Bills* had been referred did not conclude its labours. *The Travancore Special Marriage and Succession Bill* which was a private Bill introduced in the first Assembly and which was under reference to a Select Committee when that Assembly was dissolved, was continued with the leave of the House and was referred to a Select Committee during the year. The Assembly gave leave to introduce the following private Bills during the year :—

(i) *The Travancore Chitties Act (Amendment) Bill* ;

(ii) *The Travancore Agriculturists' Relief Act (Amendment) Bill* ;

(iii) *The Travancore Anti-Dowry Bill* ; and

(iv) *The Travancore Cutchy Memons Bill.*

The Travancore Hindu Women's Rights to Property Bill was introduced in the Sri Chitra State Council and referred to a Select Committee of that House. Leave was granted by the Council to introduce *the Travancore Hindu Gains of Learning Bill* and also a Bill to amend *the Travancore Agriculturists' Relief Act. The Travancore Transfers and Bequests to Unborn Persons Bill* which had been introduced in the Council and which was pending with a Select Committee of that House in the beginning of the year, was reported on by the Committee and the report was presented to the Council. The Bill was however recommitted to the same Select Committee.

Financial Business.

The budget for 1115 M. E. was presented at a joint sitting of the Assembly and the Council held on the 5th Karkatakam 1114/21st July 1939. It was discussed by the Assembly and passed subject to the reduction of Rs. 18 in all under the following token motions :

Amount reduced.	Demand Head.	Purpose of the motion for reduction.
Rs. 5	II. Excise Department.	To urge the need for the nationalisation of salt industry in the State.
Re. 1	IV. Education Department excluding Travancore University.	To discuss the necessity for the reduction of school fees at least by 25 per cent.
Rs. 10	VI. General Administration excluding Financial Secretariat, Accountant-General's Office and Legislative Bodies.	To point out the necessity for giving adequate communal representation among Assistant Secretaries to Government.
Re. 1	XIII. Police.	To point out the defective nature of the charge sheets filed by the Police before the Magistrates' Courts.
Re. 1	XVI. Commercial Transport.	To discuss the policy of expanding the State Transport system both by land and by water.

These cuts were accepted by the Government and were given effect to in presenting the demands for grants to the State Council. The Council voted all the demands as presented to it. Demands for supplementary grants to the extent of Rs. 3,45,516 in the budget for 1114 were also voted by the Houses during the year.

Questions.

Notice was given of 1,334 questions in the Assembly, of which 95 were disallowed as being in contravention of the rules, and the rest were admitted. Of the questions admitted, answers were furnished for 643 questions. In the Council 252 questions were given notice of, of which 7 were disallowed and the rest admitted. The total number of questions answered in the Council during the year was 219.

Resolutions.

Eleven resolutions on matters of general public interest were moved and discussed in the Assembly, of which the following three resolutions alone were passed :—

(i) That the working hours of the arrack and toddy shops be shortened from 9 P. M. to 6 P. M.;

(ii) That 30 per cent. of the land revenue of the State be budgetted yearly for irrigation works for the next 20 years; and

(iii) That a scheme for the prohibition of the vending and consumption of intoxicating drinks within a limited area with a view to bring under control the drink evil be devised and put through immediately.

Of the rest, one was talked out, one was rejected by the House and six were withdrawn after discussion.

In the State Council seven resolutions were moved and discussed, of which the following two were passed:—

(i) That free Ayurveda hospitals be established in the towns of Quilon, Alleppey and Kottayam and a Sidha Vaidya hospital at Nagercoil; and

(ii) That a five-year plan be chalked out and necessary funds allotted for the purpose of improving irrigation tanks in Travancore.

One of the resolutions, *viz.*, that a committee be appointed to enquire into the beggar problem in the State, was accepted on behalf of Government on the floor of the House. Of the remaining four resolutions, three were withdrawn after discussion and one was talked out.

Miscellaneous.

Motions for adjournment of the business of the Assembly to discuss matters of urgent public importance were moved on four occasions during the year but none of the motions was passed as three of them were withdrawn after discussion and one was lost when put to vote. In the Council too, four adjournment motions were moved and discussed, but none of them was passed, three having been withdrawn after discussion and one talked out.

The Assembly passed two condolence motions during the year, expressing regret at the demises of His Highness the Maharaja Sir Sayaji Rao Gaekwar of Baroda and of His Holiness the Pope Pius XI.

CHAPTER VII.

PROTECTION.

Police.

Inspector-General of Police. *Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao, B. A., (From 1-1-1114 till 18-2-1114.)*
Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy (From 19-2-1114 to the end of the year.)

Salient Features.

The designation of the head of the department was changed from 'Commissioner of Police' into 'Inspector-General of Police.'

The following measures of reorganisation were effected with effect from 1-5-1114. The Traffic and the Criminal Intelligence branches of the department, which had been functioning as separate units under two independent District Superintendents of Police, were abolished and added on to the three districts, under the control of the respective District Superintendents of Police. This change has made each district self-sufficient, with the Criminal Intelligence Department and the Traffic branch working directly under the District Superintendent of Police. With a view, however, to ensuring proper control, the Inspector-General was entrusted with the work relating to the registration of motor vehicles, the issue of permits and licences and allied matters of a general nature. The post of a Deputy Inspector-General of Police in the cadre of District Superintendent of Police was created to assist the Inspector-General. Control of the Criminal Intelligence Department work and confidential political and quasi-political work were attended to in the Inspector-General's office, under the immediate control of the Inspector-General. To help the Inspector-General in this item of work, a post in the cadre of Assistant Superintendent of Police was created and designated as "Assistant Inspector-General of Police."

The post of "Inspector-Manager" was abolished and a new post on Rs. 100-10/2-150 designated 'Office Superintendent' was created instead during the year.

There were seven Traffic Inspectors in the Traffic Department before the reorganisation. The posts of three Traffic Inspectors were abolished and the respective incumbents absorbed in the general force. One of the remaining four Inspectors was posted as Pilot officer and the rest in the three districts. The seven posts of Sub-Inspectors in the Criminal Intelligence Department were abolished and the incumbents were absorbed as First Grade Head Constables.

To combat the subversive political movements, a temporary Armed Reserve consisting of 500 men was sanctioned as detailed below :—

Inspectors	...	3
Sub-Inspectors	...	10
Head Constables	...	40
Naicks	...	40
Lance Naicks	...	40
Constables	...	367
	...	500

The post of an Assistant Superintendent of Police was also sanctioned, as a temporary measure, to control this force. In order to save the time required for enlistment and training of raw recruits, a party of 85 ex-military men from the Sappers and Miners from Madras and Bangalore was enlisted as Head Constables, Naicks and Constables. Ex-military men from the State Forces were also similarly enlisted, their number being 136. The remaining number was made up by direct recruitment. The services of those enlisted from Madras and Bangalore were utilised for about four months up to the 20th Medom 1114, and during the latter part of the year, they were discharged in batches, the vacancies thus created being gradually filled up by drafting deserving men from the Special Constabulary. The Reserve was distributed among the three districts, with head-quarters at Trivandrum, Quilon and Kottayam; and the contingent in each district was designated District Reserve. A force of 202 men formed the State

General Reserve, with head-quarters at Trivandrum, under the charge of an Inspector of Police. This was placed under the direct charge of the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Armed Reserve. As a measure of emergency, in connection with the subversive political movements, a staff of 1,397 special police officers, consisting of 46 Head Constables and 1,351 Constables was appointed throughout the State. They were distributed among the several stations. At the end of the year, the number stood at 1,228, consisting of 42 Head Constables and 1,186 Constables.

12 Women Constables were recruited to the Special Police, as an experimental measure. At the end of the year, the number stood at ten, one having been promoted as temporary shorthand reporter and the other having resigned.

16 Constables were recruited as temporary shorthand reporters to take down speeches at political meetings.

The year under report was one of great stress and strain for the Police force. The subversive political movements, started in the previous year by the State Congress, the Youth League and other unlawful organisations, continued to give immense trouble and their activities manifested themselves in aggressive and violent forms. Wrongful use of fire arms was also resorted to by the law breakers. There were labour troubles at Alleppey and communal clashes at Vaikam. To deal with the new and unexpected situations created by political agitators, Acts I of 1114 and X of 1114 had to be promulgated. Several cases were registered under the various sections of the new Acts. In the Trivandrum District, riots took place at the Trivandrum beach, at Neyyattinkara, Kallara, Pangode, Attingal and Kollengode and, in the Quilon District, at Kottarakara, Chengannur, Karunagapalli, Kayencolam, Alleppey, Shertallai, and Quilon, and, in the Kottayam District, at Puthupalli, Karugachal, etc. In all these places, the police faced the situation with commendable tact, courage and coolness and at great personal risk to their lives. The lawless mob indulged in the burning of transport buses, the cars of Police and other Government officers, damaging of bridges and culverts and Government buildings and offices, and in attacking Government officers with intent to kill them. Lathi charges had to be resorted to in several places and the

military had to be called in to the aid of the Police. The ring leaders and the rioters were, however, soon rounded up and their activities checked with promptness and courage.

The post of Inspector of Police, Palace Guard, was abolished temporarily. The jurisdiction of the Shertallai and Arukutty Police stations was transferred from the District Superintendent of Police, Kottayam, to the District Superintendent of Police, Quilon, with effect from the 1st Medom 1114. For purposes of more effective supervision and control, the territorial jurisdiction of the Alleppey and Chengannur Police sub-divisions was revised. Kayencolam and Haripad stations were transferred from the jurisdiction of the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Chengannur, to that of the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Alleppey, and Kottarakara, Punalur and Shencotta stations to that of the former from under the jurisdiction of the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Alleppey.

Strength, Recruitment and Discipline.

The sanctioned strength of the permanent force on the last day of the year was 2,666 officers and men against 2,668 at the close of the previous year. The number of Inspectors in the permanent force was 81 against 86 in the previous year owing to the abolition of five places in the cadre of Inspectors, on reorganisation. There was one member of the permanent police force to every 3·58 sq. miles of the area of the State, to every 2,332 of its population and to every 1·2 cognizable cases. There was no dismissal of officers or men during the year. 624 men were otherwise punished departmentally. Rewards, amounting to Rs. 901, were awarded to 199 police officers and 66 private individuals during the year, against Rs. 1,312 to 250 police officers and 36 private individuals in the previous year. A sum of Rs. 250 was granted, as a special case, to the officers and men who, at great danger to their lives, faced the attacks of the rioters at Kallara and Pangode. The practice of granting money rewards to police officers, excepting the Head Constables and constables, was discouraged as far as possible, and good service entries were recorded instead. The sanctioned strength of the permanent reserve force was one Inspector and 137 men.

Crimes. The total number of grave crimes reported during the years 1113 and 1114 is given in the subjoined statement:—

Nature of crime.		*1113*	*1114*
Murder	...	93	114
Culpable homicide	...	19	9
Dacoity	...	10	10
Robbery	...	51	59
House-breaking and theft	...	342	360
Cattle theft	..	89	100
Theft (ordinary)	...	448	393
Total	...	1,052	1,045

There was an increase of crime under murder, robbery, house-breaking and cattle theft while there was a fall under the other heads. In the case of murder, the motives which actuated the deed were the following:—

Motive or cause.		*No. of cases.*
Jealousy or sex	...	17
Drink	...	7
Property dispute	...	23
Money dispute	...	11
Other causes	...	56
Total	...	114

The implements or means adopted for the perpetration of the crimes were knife, chopper, dagger, axe, pestle, plank, strangulation, drowning, stick and stone. There were two cases of infanticide against eight in the previous year. There was no case of cattle poisoning as in the previous year. The total value of property lost through crime fell from Rs. 57,862 to Rs. 52,887 and property to the value of Rs. 20,166 was recovered against Rs. 24,453 in the previous year. The percentage of recovery was 38 against 42 in 1113.

Investigation. The total number of cognizable cases for investigation was 3,481 against 3,139 in 1113. 468 cases were referred as false, 320 reported as undetected and 10 were not investigated under Section 139 of the Criminal Procedure Code. The number of

cases pending investigation at the end of the year was 220 against 215 at the end of 1113. The number of cases charged during the year was 2,454 against 2,114 in the previous year. The percentage of cases detected rose from 53 to 57 and that of persons convicted from 37 to 39.

Counterfeiting Coins and Currency Notes.

Cases of counterfeit coining reported during the year numbered 5 against 11 in 1113. Of these, one was referred as due to mistake of fact and one case was under investigation. The remaining three cases were charged and were pending trial. No case relating to counterfeiting of currency notes was reported during the year.

Offences relating to Weights and Measures.

The use of false weights and measures had become a menace in the State; and the department launched a relentless campaign to stop it. These were immensely beneficial to the masses, particularly to those scattered far in the interior. The number of cases charged was as high as 2,104 against 706 in the previous year.

Fire-Arms.

53 cases were registered under the Arms Act against 21 in the previous year. Of these, one was referred and the remaining 52 cases were charged. Of these, 30 ended in conviction, 3 cases were discharged and one case was withdrawn. The remaining 18 cases were pending trial at the close of the year.

Prevention of Crime.

The number of habitual criminals brought under police surveillance by fresh registration during the year was 71 against 132 in the previous year. 50 persons were removed from the list as they were no longer addicted to crime and 34 persons on account of death and other causes. The number of bad characters at large on the last day of the year was 478 against 460 in the previous year and of these 162 were out of view. The number in jail on the last day of the year was 84.

Security for Good Behaviour.

The number of cases in respect of security for good behaviour, including those against whom proceedings were pending, was 1418. Of these, 195 persons were ordered to furnish security, and of these, 134 were sentenced to imprisonment in default of furnishing security. 560 cases were

pending disposal at the end of the year and the rest were discharged.

The number of arrests made by the police during the year was 4,653 against 2,764 in 1113. The total number of persons charged, including those whose cases were pending trial at the close of the previous year, was 8,950, of whom 1,889 were convicted, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 7,479 and 1,687, respectively. The average number of days taken by the courts for the disposal of cases charged, referred and undetected was 54, 35 and 59 respectively, against 76, 52 and 58 in the previous year. The number of processes received for service by the public decreased from 159, 294 in 1113 to 155, 904 in 1114 and the number served, including those pending at the beginning of the year fell from 140,186 to 137,065. The number of warrants which remained unexecuted was 183 against 139 in 1113. Six persons escaped from custody against seven in the previous year. Five of them were re-captured, the remaining one appeared before the court and was granted bail. In 1,767 cases, the prosecution was conducted by the prosecuting staff. Of these, 711 cases ended in conviction. Three new police outposts were established during the year, one in the Trivandrum District and the others in the Quilon District. One out-post in the Quilon District was abolished during the year. The system of employing the Village Vigilance Committee for rendering help in police work has been found satisfactory. The total number of such committee members at the close of the year was 3,775.

Miscellaneous.

Criminal Intelligence Department.

As a result of the reorganisation, the C. I. D. unit was placed directly under the supervision of the Inspector-General of Police.

Criminal Intelligence Bureau.

The number of professional criminals history-sheeted during the year increased from 684 to 693. The Bureau continued to do useful work in scrutinising the progress of investigation and prosecution of crimes and in imparting instructions in each case.

Finger Print Bureau.

The number of finger print slips received for search in the Finger Print Bureau was 3,882 against 2,594 in the previous year, the increase being due to the receipt of a large number of slips from Kuala Lumpur for search of which 4 were traced. Of these, 299 were traced by the bureau and 38 through

other bureaux. The number of slips received for record was 875; and the number on record on the last day of the year, after eliminating 438 slips, was 22,733. Expert evidence was given in 65 cases.

Special Branch Enquiry and Records.

382 meetings of a political nature were attended and reported on during the year; and 504 papers of political and quasi-political nature were enquired into and reported. The number of history sheets of political agitators was 360 at the beginning of the year, and it rose to 1,080 towards the close of the year. The activities of 35 new political and quasi-political organisations were recorded. With the introduction of the Registration of Foreigners Act, more than 300 foreigners were registered.

Motor Traffic. Early History.

The first motor vehicle was registered towards the close of 1087 and the first motor driving licence was issued a few months later. The task of directing and controlling motor traffic has, since its inception, been vested in the Police Department. The first attempt to deal statutorily with motor traffic was made in Act VII of 1087 which was replaced by Act V of 1090. The existing law is contained in Act VI of 1094. Rules were framed in 1099 in exercise of the powers reserved under Section 12 of that Act, and those rules were supplemented and revised from time to time to suit the changing conditions of traffic. With the increase in the volume of work, the need for an officer to examine the fitness of motor vehicles plying for hire and to regulate motor traffic was felt and a Motor Bus Inspector was therefore appointed in 1092. The post was abolished temporarily in 1103, the duty of examining buses being entrusted to approved examiners, (mostly officers of the Public Works Department), and the regulation of traffic being placed under the control of a Traffic Inspector newly appointed for the purpose. Motor Traffic Inspectors were appointed later on; and they were borne on the inspectorate of the Police Department. From the beginning of 1107, the control of traffic was placed under the charge of a separate District Superintendent of Police. In 1108, the number of Traffic Inspectors was increased to seven; and the examination of buses, conducted mostly by the officers of the Public Works Department, was, thereafter, entrusted to Traffic

Inspectors. The work of issuing driving licences, drivers' badges, conductors' passes etc., was attended to in the office of the Traffic Superintendent of Police.

As a result of the reorganisation of the department, the traffic branch, as a separate unit, was abolished with effect from the 1st Dhanu 1114. The executive work connected with the operation of the Motor Vehicles Act was entrusted to the local police; and the respective District Superintendents of Police exercised administrative and disciplinary control over them. The Traffic Inspectors were made to function as the traffic assistants to the District Superintendents of Police; and the staff under each Traffic Inspector was transferred to the District force and distributed among the various stations to attend to the work performed by the traffic staff in the various checking stations. The registration of motor vehicles, the issue of permits and licences and allied matters relating to the general administration of the Motor Vehicles Act are to be carried out in the Inspector-General's office, where a new traffic section, under the direct charge of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, was created.

Registration of Motor Vehicles.

The subjoined table compares the number of motor vehicles registered during 1113 and 1114.

Type of Motor Vehicles	1113	1114
Cars	322	285
Buses	170	118
Lorries	43	60
Motor cycles	39	25
Total	574	488

The number of vehicles registered during the year showed a decrease by 86.

Motor vehicles registered as public conveyances during 1114 numbered 145 of which 118 were buses, 9 taxi cars and 18 were lorries, the total number registered at the end of 1114 being 2,411. Of the 118 buses registered during the year, 68 buses belonged to the State Transport Department. The number of fresh permits issued during the year was 125. Of these, 50 were for buses, 68 for taxi cars and the remaining 7 for lorries. 408 permits were renewed and 55 re-issued during the year under report. The number of fresh licences issued to drive motor vehicles during the year was 327 and the number of driving tuition licences issued was 311 as against 442 and 386 respectively in the previous year. 3,630 driving licences were either renewed or re-issued in 1114, thus working out a total of 4,268 against 4,447 in 1113. There was a decrease in the number of licences issued during the year. 120 drivers' badges were issued afresh in the year against 123 in the year previous. The total number of badges issued till the end of 1114 was 4,974. 131 pass books were issued during the year against 237 in 1113 making up thereby a total of 5,358 pass books holders till the close of 1114. A surprise check on a particular day of all the motor vehicles plying throughout the State was conducted on the 19th Meenam 1114. Out of the 5,477 vehicles registered in the State 1,097 were checked in one day; and, in 283 cases, defects, such as non-possession of driving licences and 'G' permits, overloading etc., were detected. The half-yearly examination of buses was conducted by two Traffic Inspectors under the supervision of the District Superintendent of Police, or, in his absence, the Assistant Superintendent of Police. This procedure produced a salutary effect.

Public Conveyance.

The number of offences relating to motor vehicles reported for action was 3,201 against 4,194 in 1113, of which 3,078 were under the Motor Vehicles Act and Rules and the remaining 123 under other laws. The number of cases reported for departmental action was 723 and the number charged was 2,480. Of the latter, 1,616 ended in conviction, 228 in discharge and 636 were pending at the close of the year. In the cases charged, 3,426 persons were involved: of these, 2,190 were convicted and 381 discharged, while the cases relating to the remaining 855 were pending disposal at the end of the year. Driving beyond

Offences relating to Motor Vehicles.

speedlimits, overloading, driving without licence, failure to observe the rule of the road, plying for hire without 'G' permits formed a larger percentage of cases.

Motor Accidents.

The number of accidents caused by motor vehicles fell from 114 in 1113 to 109 in 1114. 28 persons died and 110 sustained injuries as a result of these accidents.

Hackney Carriages.

The number of carriages registered under the Hackney Carriages Act in the towns of Trivandrum, Quilon and Alleppey was 220, 149 and 193 against 251, 166 and 233 respectively in 1113. The total number of persons licensed to drive was 546 against 686 in the previous year.

Finance.

The receipts of the Police Department amounted to Rs. 66,608 against Rs. 73,664 in 1113. The receipts were made up mostly of collections under the Motor Vehicles Act, fees for the supply of police to private persons and companies and fees for the examination of motor buses. The total cost of the department during the year was Rs. 8,60,251 against Rs. 7,43,026.

Army.

Commandant. *Lieut. Col. H. L. Watkis, M. C. (From 1-1-1114 to 17-9-1114 and 17-11-1114 to the end of the year).*

Major C. B. Ponnappa (Offg. from 18-9-1114 to 16-11-1114).

General.

The Travancore State Forces consist of His Highness the Maharaja's Body Guard, the First, the Second and the Third Travancore Infantry units, the Artillery and the State Forces Band. The Infantry units are commanded by British or State Officers and controlled by a Commandant who is usually a British Officer not below the rank of a Major. His Highness' Body Guard is at present commanded by the Commandant himself. The Artillery unit is organised into two saluting batteries of four guns each.

Strength.

The strength of the First, the Second and the Third Infantry was 749, 743 and 355 respectively at the end of the year. The strength of His Highness the Maharaja's Body Guard was 65 and that of the Artillery 44. The total strength of the army was 2,023 at the end of the year.

Recruitment.

107 persons were recruited at head-quarters during the year. Of these, 73 were Nairs, 11 Christians, 14 Ezhavas, 3 Hindu Nadars, 5 Christian Nadars and 1 Mahomedan.

Attachments.

Three State Officers from the First Infantry were sent to attend a Tactical course at Secunderabad and Bangalore. One State Officer from the First Infantry was attached to the Fifth Mahratta Light Infantry at Ahmednagar and another for preliminary Training course at Bangalore. Nine non-commisoned officers from the First Infantry and one Indian officer and 8 non-commissioned officers and one sepoy of the Second Infantry attended various courses with Indian Army units. Three State officers of the Second Infantry also were attached to different Indian Army units for training. All officers and other ranks returned with creditable certificates.

Training.

The Travancore Army Trainining School continued to do good work. Cadre courses of Indian Officers and other ranks were held in tactical training, physical training, musketry and section leading.

Health of the Forces.

Although the total number of in-patients was less than for the previous year, the percentage of the average sick rose from 1·97 to 2·14. This was due to the longer stay of patients in the hospital.

Miscellaneous.

The new Third Infantry barracks and six family quarters for 120 families were completed during the year. The new parade ground was completed and the first ceremonial parade was held there in honour of the visit of His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The receipts from the Army amounted to Rs. 7,035 against Rs. 15,167 in 1113 and the expenditure was Rs. 10,19,925 against Rs. 8,31,444 in 1113.

Arms and Ammunition.

The number of licences issued during the year for the import of firearms, cartridges, detonators, dynamite etc., was 72. Arms and ammunition were brought into the State by 72 licensees either as personal effects or as articles of trade. 7 export licences were also issued for arms, ammunition etc. Licences granted for the manufacture of arms and ammunition or military stores numbered 21 and those for sale 79. The total number of licences issued to persons to possess arms and ammunition and to go armed in the State was 4,276 and the amount of fees levied was Rs 7,032. Under the Explosives Act, V of 1079, 52 licences were issued. No licence for shooting under the Forest Act was issued during the year.

JAILS.

The Central Prison.

Superintendent.

Mr. M. Pothen, B. A. (From 1-1-1114 to 8-2-1114)

Mr. K. N. Parameswaran Pillai (From 8-2-1114 to 11-2-1114.)

The Jailor in charge (From 11-2-1114 to 24-4-1114.)

Mr. E. Subramonia Pillai (From 24-4-1114 till the end of the year.)

Strength. The year under review opened with 739 prisoners in the Central Prison. The following table shows the number of prisoners under the different classes in 1114.

Class of prisoners.	Strength at the beginning of 1114.	Admitted in 1114.	Discharged in 1114.	Strength at the end of 1114.
Convicted	707	1,203	1,196	714
Under-trial	25	158	108	75
Civil	7	56	58	5
Total	739	1,417	1,362	794

The number of prisoners discharged during the year was 1,362 *viz.*, 1,196 convicted, 108 under-trial and 58 civil prisoners. The daily average number confined rose from 728 in 1113 to 743 in 1114.

Convicted Prisoners.

The number of convicted prisoners admitted during the year was 1,187 males and 16 females of whom 708 were convicted for offences under the Penal Code and the rest for offences under various other laws. Of the males, 763 were Hindus, 95 Muslims, 327 Christians and two other classes. 589 were illiterates, 10 were above 60 years of age, 151 between 41 and 60 years of age and 1,026 between 16 and 40 years of age. Of the 16 females, 10 were illiterates, 5 were between 41 and 60 years of age, 10 between 16 and 40 years and one below 16 years of age. Four of them were Nairs, one Ezhava, 5 other Hindus and 6 Christians.

There were ten prisoners sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for life and capital punishment was meted out to one prisoner. During the year 142 habitual male prisoners were admitted as against 180 males and 3 females in 1113. Of these, 95 had one previous conviction, 25 had two previous convictions and 22 had more than two convictions. Those who had previous convictions formed 11·96 of the male convict population.

Under the remission system 190 prisoners were released against 220 in the previous year. The maximum remission and gratuity earned were one year, seven months and twenty eight days and Rs. 17 chs. 24 respectively by a convict warder. 263 were released in exercise of the royal prerogative of clemency.

Discipline.

The number of offences recorded and punishments awarded were 127 against 125 in the previous year. The offences were remissness in work, use of prohibited articles, quarrel, assault, insubordination and other breaches of jail discipline. Separate cellular and solitary confinement was awarded in 38 cases, corporal punishment in two cases and other punishments in the remaining 87 cases.

Religious and moral instruction was, as usual, imparted to convicts by honorary workers and philanthropic bodies; and teachers from the Education Department continued to impart elementary education to adolescent male convicts. The class for casuals began with 13 students, and 11 students were admitted during the year. The class for habituals began with 5 students, and 19 were admitted during the year. Students were found attentive to their studies and to have gained some knowledge before release.

Education of Convicts.

The number of prisoners admitted to the jail hospital was 90 as against 60 in the previous year and the daily average number of sick was 3·83 as against 2·31 in 1113. The percentage of the average sick to the average total strength rose from ·32 in 1113 to ·52. There were 12 deaths as against 16 in the previous year. Of these, 1 died of dysentery, 1 of pneumonia, 3 of disorders of the nervous system, one due to the disease of the circulatory system, one of diarrhoea, one due to disease of the liver, one due to the disorders of the digestive system, 2 of bright's disease and one died after discharge from the hospital. Of the 1,196 prisoners released during the year, 35·87 per cent. gained weight, 16·39 per cent. lost weight and 47·74 per cent. neither gained nor lost weight while in jail.

Health and Mortality.

Leather and textile goods are being manufactured in the factory attached to the prison and the prisoners are trained in the industry and they are also given training in printing in the press attached to the prison. The Advisory Board constituted for reconsidering the sentences of long-term prisoners who are not habituals recommended 58 cases and Government sanctioned the release of 53 prisoners.

Miscellaneous.

The cost per head under dieting charges was Rs. 44 chs. 6 cash 10 against Rs. 42 chs. 19 cash 3 in 1113 and that of clothing and bedding was Rs. 9 chs. 22 cash 5 against Rs. 6 chs. 18 cash 1 in the previous year. The hospital charges also rose from Rs. 4,741 chs. 8 cash 5 in 1113 to Rs. 6,135 chs. 8 cash 8 in 1114. The total cost per head rose from Rs. 140 chs. 5 cash 8 in the previous year to Rs. 169 chs. 4 cash 3.

Cost of Maintenance.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The subjoined statement shows the receipts from and the expenditure on the Central Prison during 1113 and 1114 :--

Particulars.	1113	1114
Receipts	Rs.	Rs.
Jail Manufacture	19,727	19,676
Central Prison Press	.	42
Miscellaneous	1,440	1,422
Total	21,167	21,140
Expenditure	1,00.388	1,196,60

Lock-ups.

Persons sentenced by the criminal courts in the mofussil to imprisonment for a month or for a lesser period are confined in the station lock-ups, while those sentenced to longer terms by such courts and those sentenced to imprisonment for any term by the criminal courts at Trivandrum are sent to the Central Prison. The number of prisoners confined in the station lock-ups during 1114 was 21,775 against 14,704 in 1113. These included convicts and under-trial prisoners.

Registration.

Director. *Mr. K. Madhava Kurup, M. A.*

Registry Offices.

The number of District Registrars' Offices and permanent Sub-Registrars' offices during the year was 3 and 80 respectively including the two ex-officio Registrars' Offices at Devicolam and Peermade.

Number of Documents Registered.

The number of documents presented for registration fell from 278,003 in 1113 to 272,599 showing a decrease of 5,404 documents or 1·94 per cent. Including the 33 documents pending registration at the commencement of the year, the total number of documents dealt with during the year was 272,632, of which 272,556 were registered, 36

refused registration and 3 returned unregistered at the request of the parties. The remaining 34 documents were pending at the close of the year, of which 10 were under reference to the District Registrars for adjudication of stamp duty and 24 in various stages of registration enquiry. The percentage of documents registered on the day of presentation was 99·2 against 99·4 in 1113. The number of documents lying unclaimed at the close of the year was 1,131 against 1,241 at the close of the previous year.

Value of Transactions.

The aggregate value of transactions decreased from Rs. 6,59,92,782 in 1113 to Rs. 5,77,84,905 in 1114 or by 12·43 per cent. The value of transactions relating to immovable property fell from Rs. 6,33,77,792 to Rs. 5,56,77,629 and that affecting movable property from Rs. 26,14,990 to Rs. 21,07,276, the percentages of decrease being 12·15 and 19·42 respectively. The average value of documents fell from Rs. 237 to Rs. 208, that of a document relating to immovable property declined from Rs. 238 to Rs 211 and that relating to movable property fell from Rs. 240 to Rs. 235. The average registration fee for a document rose from Re. 1 ch. 1 cash 4 in 1113 to Re. 1 chs. 16 cash 5 in 1114.

Classes of documents.

The number of registrations affecting immovable property was 262,816 or 96·4 per cent. of the total registrations against 266,273 or 95·8 per cent. in the preceding year. Of these, mortgages and sales constituted 37·2 per cent. and 23·5 per cent, respectively against 38·7 per cent. and 23·5 per cent. in the previous year. The total area of the land alienated by agriculturists in favour of non-agriculturists under mortgages and sales was 26,309 acres and 28,429 acres respectively. The number of transactions relating to immovable property of value below Rs. 100 was 163983 or 60.1 per cent against 162,849 or 58·6 per cent. in 1113. The number of registrations relating to movable property was 8,954 or 3·2 per cent. of the total registrations against 10,876 or 3·9 per cent. in the previous year. Money bonds formed 8·6 per cent., sales 11·1 per cent. and miscellaneous transactions 80·3 per cent. The number of wills registered was 786 against 818 in 1113. As in the past the testators were in the majority of cases,

Nairs and Christians numbering 293 and 201 respectively, followed by Ezhavas (90), Brahmins (41), Muslims (17) and other classes 144. Twenty-seven sealed covers containing wills were deposited with the District Registrars. The number of unopened sealed covers in deposit at the end of the year was 459.

Chitties.

The number of chitties registered during the year was 166 against 232 in the previous year. The total number of chitties registered since the enactment of the Chitties Act, III of 1094, was 15,735; of these 13,395 terminated by the close of 1113 and 527 in 1114. The number of chitties working at the close of the year was 1,813 and the total capital thereof amounted to Rs. 56·25 lakhs. Three prosecutions were instituted by the department for offences under the Chitties Act.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The revenue of the department fell from Rs. 4,57,099 in 1113 to Rs. 4,30,628 in 1114 and the expenditure also fell from Rs. 3,16,272 to Rs 3,14,158. The working of the department during the year resulted in a surplus of Rs. 1,16,470 as against Rs. 1,40,827 in the previous year. The figures do not include the fees for registering joint stock companies or expenditure on account of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and his staff though the Director of Registration himself was the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies throughout the year under report.

Weights and Measures.

The fees realised during the year for stamping weights and measures amounted to Rs. 11,130 against Rs 9,039 in 1113. The expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 992 against Rs. 825 in the previous year.

CHAPTER VIII.

PRODUCTION AND INDUSTRY.

Season and Rainfall.

Weather conditions during the year were erratic as could be seen from the rainfall recorded at some of the important stations in the State. The average rainfall for the whole State was 87·3 inches against 84·4 inches in 1113. Both the south-west monsoon and the north-east monsoon were late and scanty in South Travancore. Consequently the paddy crop was adversely affected. As the spell of hot weather was unduly long in North Travancore cocoanut and arecanut palms suffered badly. In some places, many areca palms perished on account of the long drought. In Central Travancore excepting in the taluk of Shencotta rainfall was copious.

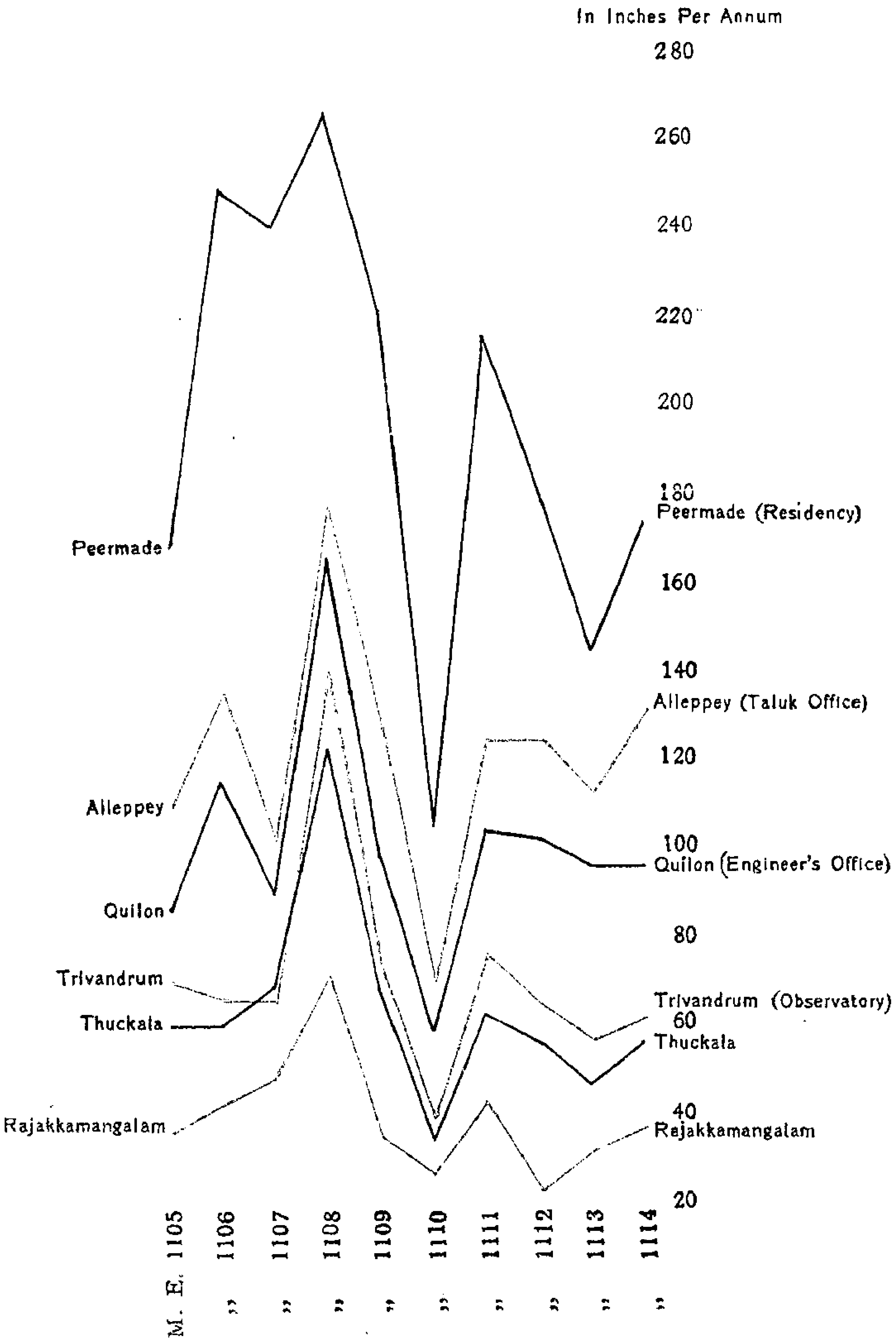
Agriculture and Fisheries.

Director. *Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar, B. A., M. Sc. (New Jersey), F. C. S.*

History.

2. The establishment, in 1894, of an agricultural demonstration farm at Karamana near Trivandrum to demonstrate to the ryots the advantages of improved methods of cultivation and the possibilities of introducing iron ploughs and crops like groundnut and new varieties of sugarcane seems to have been the first step taken towards the development of scientific agriculture in the State. Two years later, a scheme for the teaching of the elements of agriculture in primary schools was formulated but not pushed through. A second farm was opened at Quilon in 1907. The Department of Agriculture was organised in 1908 on the return of the late Rao Bahadur *Rajyasevaniratha* Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai who had been deputed for training in Europe. Since then, the department has been steadily growing in scope, and the extent of its activities now comprises three distinct units *viz.*, the Agricultural, the Veterinary and the Fisheries branches. In the Agricultural branch, there is a scientific section with a staff of specialists

Rainfall Chart



Litho, The Art Printing Works, Trivandrum.

and a well equipped research laboratory. The Bio-Chemist, the Entomologist, the Mycologist and the Economic Botanist carry on researches and experiments on various aspects of agricultural development under the guidance of the Director. The importance of propaganda has been realised and there are demonstration and experimental farms in various parts of the State under the charge of qualified Inspectors who devote their attention primarily to the improvement of the more important crops in their jurisdiction. They are charged with the function of popularising improved manures and methods and of introducing cheap agricultural machinery of modern pattern. They deliver lectures on agricultural topics of local interest and evoke popular co-operation by carrying on experiments on private lands. A scheme has long been in operation for the award of grants for the maintenance of stud bulls of good breed to grade up the local cattle. Schools have been established for giving agricultural education. In the Veterinary branch, there are fifteen institutions in charge of qualified Veterinary officers who give free medical treatment to animals. There are also a few grant-in-aid veterinary surgeons and *vaidyans*. The Fisheries branch controls the inland fisheries and deals with the development of fish industries. For the general and technical education of children belonging to the communities which live by fishing, special schools have been established. Facilities are provided in a number of fish-curing yards situated all along the coast for the proper preservation of fish. Salt is supplied for the purpose at concessional prices. Steps have also been taken by the department for the encouragement of subsidiary occupations for agriculturists, such as poultry farming and apiculture.

In recent years attempts have been made to develop the activities of the department and to widen the scope of its usefulness. A Board of Agriculture was created in 1111 with the Director as Chairman and composed of the officers of the department and 15 non-officials of whom five are elected by the Sri Mulam Assembly and five by the Sri Chitra State Council and five nominated by the Government. In the same year, two Marketing Officers were appointed, one for livestock and the other for crops, for the purpose of improving the methods of marketing the agricultural products of the State in co-operation with the Government of India. The

State has secured representation on the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research conducted under the auspices of the Government of India. The Dewan is a member of the Governing Body and the Director of Agriculture is a member of the Advisory Board of the Council to represent the State.

Salient Features.

During the year under report, Government sanctioned the reorganisation of the Propaganda branch of the department with a view to providing the requisite staff for carrying on intensive propaganda in the villages. The State was divided into three agricultural divisions *viz.*, the Southern, Central and Northern Divisions. Each division was placed under a Divisional Agricultural Officer who was entrusted with the work of planning, guiding and controlling all agricultural experiments, demonstrations and propaganda in his division. Each division was sub-divided into four agricultural ranges, thereby making up a total number of 12 ranges for the whole State. These ranges were further parcelled out into 25 sections. Each section constitutes the unit of administration in respect of agricultural propaganda. An additional staff, consisting of three Second Grade agricultural Inspectors, four Second Grade Agricultural Demonstrators, four clerks and two peons was sanctioned for coping with the increased volume of work consequent on the reorganisation. The three temporary Second Grade Inspectors sanctioned in 1104 for propaganda work in the taluks of Neyyattinkara, Mavelikara and Tiruvalla were confirmed during the year under report. The departmental farms situated in each division were placed under the control of the respective Divisional Agricultural officers. The officers in charge of farms were divested of district work and designated Farm Managers. All Agricultural Sub-Inspectors were designated Demonstrators. With a view to economising expenditure on the Pepper Farm, Koni, the management thereof was vested in the Headmaster of the Agricultural School, Koni, early in the month of Makaram. The Inspector and other members of the staff excepting the Maistry were transferred to other institutions. The Cocoanut Farm, Alleppey, was put in charge of the Maistry attached thereto. The Oachira and Chettikulangara Farms were also placed in charge of a Maistry.

In the November 1938 session of the Advisory Board of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research and the Board of Agricultural and Animal Husbandry in India, a revised scheme for the improvement of paddy in Travancore, which had been submitted from this State, came up for consideration. The scheme was approved by the Board and the Imperial Council sanctioned from its funds a sum of Rs. 14,616, spread over a period of three years in the first instance for carrying out this scheme. At the meeting of the Board held in Simla in May 1939 the question of the extension of the period of investigation of the root and leaf diseases of the cocoanut palm in South India was considered and the Board sanctioned the extension of the scheme for a further period of two years from January 1940, under the existing conditions, at a cost of Rs. 21,300.

As it was felt that the Board of Agriculture with its strength of 58 had become an unwieldy body, reduction in the number of members was thought expedient. On the recommendation of the Director of Agriculture, Government sanctioned the re-constitution of the Board with a strength of 32 members, 15 non-officials and 17 officials.

Chemical and Biological Investigations.

Soil survey and biological analysis of soils, to determine their properties and to find out the most suitable treatment for each kind of soil, are among the chief items of work of the Bio-Chemist attached to the department. The soil survey of the Kunnatnad taluk, which was in progress during the previous year, was continued and representative samples of soils from eight more pakuthies were collected and analysed. The analysis of the juice of the different varieties of sugarcane commonly cultivated in the State, which was commenced during the previous year, was continued, and it was found that exotic varieties of canes showed the highest sucrose content. During the year further experiments on the preparation of compost were carried out and a simple, practical and 'fool-proof' method was evolved and demonstrated to the ryots. Investigation on paddy seed dryage was conducted with a view to finding out the actual loss in weight which paddy undergoes on account of dryage and wastage from the time of its harvest until it is ready for

storage as seed. Reference was made in the last year's report to the revival of the Kari Experimental station at Porakad. Experiments for finding out how best the deterioration of the cultivated kari lands could be arrested were started during the year. The plots were laid out in randomised blocks and 8 different treatments with four replications were adopted. The results obtained during the first year were definitely encouraging. Reliable and conclusive results, which would be available only at the end of a minimum period of three years, are eagerly looked forward to by kari cultivators who are now faced with the problem of steadily declining yield from their lands. A thorough investigation respecting the crops that could be profitably raised in the Mannankandam garden lands was carried out and a detailed report embodying the results thereof was published as a leaflet for the benefit of the public. During the year, the headquarters of the Economic Botanist were transferred to Kayenkulam for starting a paddy breeding station with a view to evolve new strains of paddy suited to the conditions prevailing in Onattukara.

Manures.

The results of the manurial experiments conducted by the department at various centres have convinced the ryots of the advantages of a judicious application of manures for crops. During the year under report, compost was prepared in the Paddy Farm, Nagercoil, and in the Fruit Farm, Cape Comorin, out of dry leaves, waste materials, etc., available in the Farm itself. Composting was demonstrated at some of the rural centres started during the year. The composting of night soil and street sweepings was continued during the year by the municipalities of Quilon, Nagercoil and Trivandrum on the lines recommended by the department. Several private agencies comprising individuals, firms and co-operative societies were the departmental agents for the sale of manures during the year. The total value of manures sold during the year by firms and agencies, both local and foreign, exclusive of the sales effected by Messrs. Imperial Chemical Industries from whom figures had not yet been received amounted to Rs. 39,389.

During the latter part of the year, it was decided by the department to stop the system of conducting diffused demonstrations, in small plots, at numerous centres, for varying periods of time and to select instead an ideal holding of 5 acres in each taluk where improved methods of cultivation are to be carried out for a period of five years.

Demonstration and Propaganda.

The owner or owners of such holdings are to defray the expenses of cultivation in accordance with the directions of the local Agricultural officer. Manures alone will be supplied gratis by the department. Improved ploughs will be lent free of cost. The owner of the holding should multiply and distribute selected seeds among his brother cultivators. He will be given a small grant for this work. Five centres in the Southern Division and 11 in the Central Division were selected for carrying on the rural development work referred to. Work in the Northern Division was taken up only during the current year (1115) but 10 manurial demonstrations in paddy and 5 in cocoanut were conducted on the old lines in this division.

The department actively participated in the Sri Chitra Exhibition organised at Trivandrum, the *Vavubali* Exhibition held at Kuzhithura and the exhibition organised at Manavalakurichi by the *Harijan Seva Sangh*. A fairly large number of grafted fruits, seedlings, selected seeds, etc., raised in the departmental farms were disposed of at the stalls. At most of the exhibitions lectures were delivered on agricultural and allied topics and departmental leaflets were freely distributed. The officers of the department worked in close co-operation with the officers of the Co-operative Department, attending their meetings, delivering lectures and organising demonstrations. One bulletin and five leaflets were also published by the department on methods of cultivation, survey of soil of the Shertallai taluk, etc.

Paddy is the staple food grain in the country. According to the latest statistics it was cultivated over an area of 656,890 acres. Paddy produced in Travancore is insufficient to meet the country's demands in normal years and the deficiency is made good by imports. As it is not possible to increase the area under paddy cultivation to any great extent owing to want of

Crops-Paddy.

suitable lands, the introduction of intensive methods of agriculture is the only remedy. The selection and distribution of pure and prolific strains of paddy and the devising of suitable mixtures of manures are the two main methods adopted by the Agricultural Department for augmenting the yield of paddy. Manurial demonstrations with organic manures, green manures and compost manures were conducted in the paddy farm, Thirupathisaram, a suburb of Nagercoil. 12,479 pounds of selected paddy seeds were sold from the Paddy Farm.

Cocoanut.

Cocoanut is the most important commercial crop in Travancore. Manurial and cultural experiments and seed selection are the main lines of work pursued by the department in respect of this crop. Improvements in the methods of cultivation and manuring were worked out at the cocoanut farms at Karamana, Oachira and Alleppey. The area of the State under cocoanut cultivation during 1114 was estimated roughly to be 584,736 acres.

Pepper.

The problems connected with improvements in the cultivation of pepper were worked out as usual in the experimental farm at Koni. 14 varieties* of pepper-vines were under trial in the farm. Pepper was cultivated on an extent of about 90,338 acres. The pepper farm was, however, abolished at the end of the year, as a measure of retrenchment.

Tapioca.

Tapioca occupies the third place in point of area, among the crops cultivated in Travancore. It is the poor man's food. Supplemented by a small quantity of fish, it constitutes a well-balanced diet. Excellent starch could be obtained from tapioca. Its manufacture on a commercial scale has not yet been attempted. Tapioca is also regarded as a possible source of power alcohol. The departmental officers advised numerous ryots on the judicious manuring of the crop and the methods of combating its diseases. It was cultivated over an extent of about 428,243 acres.

Sugarcane.

The cultivation of sugarcane is now confined only to a limited area in Travancore, but it is capable of expansion. An area of 12,021 acres is under this crop. Experiments with this crop were in progress in the farm at Alwaye and during the year

under report the farm was converted into a pure sugarcane farm. Acclimatisation trial of exotic varieties of sugarcane, distribution of setts of promising varieties to ryots and demonstration of improved methods of cultivation and of preparing jaggery are the main objects of the farm. 13 different varieties of cane sugar were under trial in the farm. 24,058 setts of the superior variety which is admirably suited to local conditions were sold to ryots at the nominal cost of four annas per 100 setts. The use of the improved Poona furnace built in the farm for boiling the juice was demonstrated to the ryots of the surrounding sugarcane tract and consequently they have been convinced of its efficiency and economy and have constructed similar furnaces of their own in accordance with the sketches and plans supplied to them from the farm. 301 maunds of a good variety of jaggery were manufactured.

Other crops.

Banana and cholam and new crops like tomatoes and several exotic varieties of fodder crops, green manure crops and cover crops were cultivated for demonstrational purposes in one or other of the Government farms.

Tobacco.

The first trial cultivation of tobacco was carried out in the Puliyara farm during the year under report. Two distinct chewing types of tobacco *viz.*, the Coimbatore *vadakkan* and Jaffna were tested. The results have been encouraging despite the difficulties incidental to the first cultivation of a new crop and the vagaries of the season. The cured product is in no way inferior to the imported varieties in point of colour, texture, aroma and flavour. 1,380 lbs. of cured tobacco of the Coimbatore *Vadakkan* variety from 1·90 acres and 219 lbs. of the cured Jaffna variety from 52 cents were obtained as a result of cultivation.

Fruit Culture.

The Government Fruit Farm at cape Comorin is devoted exclusively to the introduction and acclimatisation of exotic fruit trees and the multiplication of choice varieties for sale to the public. Chief among the fruit trees under cultivation in these farms are graft mangoes, grapes, guavas, sapodillas, pomegranates, lemons and oranges. There is a nursery attached to the farm from which grafts, cuttings and seedlings to the value of Rs. 627 were sold to the public during the year.

Control of Plant Pests and Plant Diseases.

Numerous pests and diseases seriously damage paddy, cocoanut and other crops in Travancore and the investigation and control of these pests and diseases form the main work of the Entomological and Mycological sections of the department. Biological control of the Nephantis or Cocoanut Leaf Roller pest was resorted to on a large scale during the year. A large number of Eulophid parasites which prey upon the Nephantis pest were bred at the Parasite Breeding station, Karamana, and released in localities where the pest was rampant. A vigorous field campaign was launched against the Paddy Stem borer pest which breaks out almost annually in Nanjinad during the Kumbhom season. The method of combating the Rice Swarming Caterpillar, a major pest of Kuttanad, is still under thorough investigation. During the year a large swarm of locusts appeared in Kalanjoor in the Pathanamthitta taluk and defoliated all plants and trees indiscriminately. The Entomologist promptly visited the locality and measures were taken to combat the pest. The Hairy Caterpillar and the Thrips are the two major pests of the cardamom plant. Of the different insecticides tested, fish oil soap was found to be most effective and economical. Its use was demonstrated on a field scale and the leading cardamom planters widely adopted this method of control. The Thrips also affected chillies. Timely spraying with tobacco decoction exterminated the pest and this also was demonstrated to the planters. The Entomologist and the Mycologist visited areas affected by diseases of the cocoanut palm such as *Parasa Lipida* and leaf diseases including leaf rot, bud rot and stem bleeding, and by diseases of the arecanut like *Mahali*. A series of spraying experiments with Bordeaux was started during the year to check these diseases. Work on all aspects of the root and leaf diseases of the cocoanut palm, which is financed by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research was vigorously pursued by the Plant Pathologist. During the year the work of the Plant Pathologist consisted mainly in continuing the general survey which was commenced during the previous year, of the important cocoanut growing centres infected by the diseases, in laboratory studies of the infected materials and soil samples collected during tours, and in conducting inoculation experiments by means of cultures of isolated fungi and bacteria. An investigation on the leaf

diseases of the cocoanut palm in the Cochin State was also conducted by him during the year.

Cattle Breeding.

Since the Travancore ryot is dependent on bullocks as draught animals and as milk supply is of primary importance to a vegetarian population, the department has been paying special attention to the problem of cattle improvement. Important among these efforts are the maintenance of good stud bulls, the award of grants to private persons maintaining approved bulls, the castration of all scrub bulls, conducting propaganda to educate the ryots on the importance of proper feeding and housing of cattle and supplying the ryots with rich fodder crops. Mention was made in the previous year's report of the measures adopted for the intensive grading up of cattle in Trivandrum. In conformity with the modern tendencies and the recommendations of the Board of Agricultural and Animal Husbandry in India, the control of work in this direction was transferred from the Agricultural Inspector to the Veterinary Inspector. The weeding out of scrub bulls within the municipal limits of Trivandrum was carried on vigorously. Only three Scindhi bulls functioned properly during the year. Six stud bulls were maintained by the department for the use of the public, one in the Veterinary Hospital at Kottayam and the others in different parts of Trivandrum. The buffalo breeding station at Koovapady continued to work on right lines. Grants of Rs. 50 each was given for 30 bulls kept by private individuals and institutions in different parts of the State. The department also devoted attention to the encouragement of dairy and cattle breeding co-operative societies.

Poultry Farming and Apiculture.

The department is endeavouring to introduce poultry farming and apiculture as subsidiary cottage industries among the people. The departmental poultry farm which had been transferred to the control of the Kariakar, His Highness the Maharaja's Garage and Stables and located at Perukadai, a suburb of Trivandrum, continued to flourish satisfactorily. The apicultural branch devoted attention to popularising the bee-keeping industry. Towards the close of the year 12 hives of Carinolian bees which yield a large quantity of honey were obtained from Australia. These bees

can be acclimatised in comparatively dry places having plentiful supply of flowering plants.

Agricultural Education.

Besides instruction in elementary agriculture provided as an optional subject in the higher classes of the Malayalam and Tamil Middle Schools of the State, there were two agricultural schools conducted by the department, one at Koni and the other at Kottarakara, to impart practical training in agriculture to students. The number of students under training in these two schools at the close of the year was 29 and 22 respectively. The summer schools conducted by the Rural Reconstruction centres at Marthandom, Oollanoor and Warkala were schools with agricultural bias and gave training among other things in the scientific methods of cultivation- the preservation of manure, poultry raising, bee-keeping and other cottage industries.

Agricultural Colonies.

An agricultural colony is conducted at Koni where there are 24 colonists. They brought under cultivation, on lines approved by the department, the blocks assigned to them for colonisation. The new colony started in 1113 at Palode by the Travancore War Service Men's Association continued to be under the charge of an Agricultural Officer of the department till 20th Kumbham 1114. In the two acre blocks assigned to each colonist the cultivation of permanent crops such as pepper, cocoanut, etc., was carried out on a co-operative basis. The colonists are being encouraged to start subsidiary cottage industries like bee-keeping, poultry farming and duck rearing.

Veterinary Aid.

The number of Government Veterinary institutions remained 15 as in the previous year but the total number of animals treated by the veterinary officers rose from 32,059 to 37,232. Of these, 749 cases were treated in the hospitals and dispensaries as in-patients, 27,624 cases as out-patients and the remaining 8,859 cases were attended to by the officers while on tour. The number of castrations performed was 2,623 against 2,192 in the previous year. 35 elephants were treated by the Veterinary Inspectors and all of them were discharged cured. There were sporadic outbreaks of Foot

and Mouth diseases in some villages in South Travancore and in Shencotta. *Haemorrhagic Septicemia* broke out in a few villages in the northern taluks and stray cases of anthrax and other contagious diseases also occurred in a few localities. Preventive inoculations against these diseases were carried out on a large scale.

Marketing.

The Marketing Officer for crops conducted marketing surveys on potatoes, sugar, lac, cashewnut, fruits, cocoanut, rice and coffee. The survey in respect of potato was completed and the report was submitted to the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India. Supplementary reports on the marketing of rice and coffee were also prepared and submitted. Through the efforts of the Marketing Officer for crops, contact was established between the local fruit growers and the North Indian dealers in fruits. With a view to ascertaining the correct quantity of different classes of fish produced in the State the Marketing Officer for live-stock conducted economic surveys of a few typical fishing villages in collaboration with the Fishery Inspectors in charge of Fish Curing Yards and the Headmasters of Fishery Schools. Part II of the report on "Markets and Fairs" was finished and submitted to the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India. The Egg Grading Station continued to function at Quilon till the 24th Kumbham 1114. It is seen that during about 7 months of its working 2,403,800 eggs were graded and exported. The feasibility of opening an egg freezing factory either at Quilon or Alleppey and the facilities of transport to Cochin were also examined during the year.

Fisheries.

Condition of Fishing.

Sea fishing was generally satisfactory during the year but backwater fishing experienced a bad time, especially in the Central Division as in the previous year. There was a fall in revenue as fishermen refused to take out licences from lessees in several places.

Fish Curing.

There were 12 fish curing yards in operation as in the previous year. There was a marked increase in the quantity of fish cured in the yards at Colachel, Muttom and Poonthurai. Government continued to supply salt at concessional rates to fishermen who cured fish in these yards. 72,120 maunds of fish were

cured in all the 12 curing yards during the year against 57,482 maunds in the previous year. The subversive political movement during the year retarded work in the Cold Storage, installed in the Conemara Market in Trivandrum and impeded the sale of frozen fish. The department was therefore constrained to create a demand for frozen fish in such distant markets as Munnar, Vandiperiyar, Pampanar, Elapara, Bonami, Mettupalayam, Koilpatti and Palayamcotta.

Fishery Schools.

Five fishery schools were maintained by the department, 4 in the Northern Division and one in the Quilon Division for imparting elementary education to fisher boys and girls. The school at Kuzhithurai in the Karunagapalli taluk showed decidedly better progress than the other schools. During the year 42 co-operative societies were working for the amelioration of the social and economic conditions of the fishermen. The first fishery loan of Rs. 500 was granted during the year.

Shank Fisheries.

The period of 20 years for which the lease of the right of collecting shanks from the territorial waters of the State had been granted, terminated by the end of 1113 M. E. The monopoly system for long periods was done away with from the beginning of the year under report and a system of issuing licences to a few persons of financial soundness, business integrity and character was introduced. Licences were granted to two persons according to the new system for collecting shanks from the territorial waters of the State for a period of five years with effect from Vrischikam 1114. The licensees in question collected 13,906 shanks and the royalty realised from them was Bh. Rs. 1,390 against Rs. 988 in the previous year. The total fishery receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 21,128.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The subjoined statement compares the receipts and expenditure of the department of Agriculture and Fisheries during 1113 and 1114 :—

Particulars.	1113	1114
	Rs.	Rs.
Expenditure	2,32,923	2,39,797
Receipts	41,709	36,061
Net expenditure	1,91,214	2,03,736

INDUSTRIES AND GEOLOGY.

Director. *Mr. C. Kumara Das, B. A., M. Sc., F. I. C.*

Minerals.

Prospecting.

During the year under report a scheme for carrying on more intensive prospecting work for graphite, mica and limestone was sanctioned. The necessary additional staff with an Assistant Geologist was also appointed during the latter half of the year. In respect of graphite, two sites, one at Puliyarakkonam and the other at Chengalloor, both in the Neyyattinkara taluk, were taken up for investigation. The results of the operations were encouraging and hopeful. The investigation of mica occurrences at two other places yielded good results. The investigation of the extent of the limestone occurrences at Nedumgolam (Quilon taluk) is being continued. The Geologist of the department continued as the Inspector of Mines. All the mines were inspected by the Inspector during the year. The rules to be issued under the Travancore Mines and Minerals Act were under the consideration of Government at the close of the year.

Mineral Exports.

There was marked increase in the production and marketing of mica and ilmenite during the year. The quantity of mica exported rose from 7,000 lbs. in 1113 to 10,279 lbs. in 1114 and ilmenite from 240,279 tons to 262,949 tons. The year showed a decrease in the export of monazite, zircon and sillimanite. For the first time rutile from Travancore was placed in the market.

Industries.

Industrial Research Laboratory.

At the instance of the University Research Department two post-graduate research students of the University were admitted to the Research Laboratory, one working on the therapeutically active chemical principles of certain indigenous drugs, and the other on marine oils. The improvements in the experimental salt pans at the Thamaracolam Old Allom, referred to in the last year's report, were maintained. Samples of salt from the experimental pans as well as from neighbouring alloms were periodically collected and analysed and closely studied in the laboratory. It was observed that the salt manufactured under the direction of the Industrial Chemist showed substantial improvement in quality as indicated by a higher percentage of sodium chloride and a lower proportion of the associated impurities than in the previous year. Several samples of fresh drawn shark liver oils were tested with a view to ascertain their physical and chemical contents. Samples of salt from the several salt pans and samples of coco-brandy, jaggery arrack, foreign liquors, tinctures and denaturants manufactured by the Travancore Sugars and Chemicals Ltd., were tested in the laboratory, for the Excise Department. Samples of ink, ink-powder, type metal, etc., received from the Stores Purchase Committee were also analysed and tested. 118 samples including a wide range of materials received in the laboratory were analysed or tested during the course of the year against 84 samples in 1113. Six orders for gold-plating and two for gold cum silver plating were executed. Several enquiries received from parties were answered.

Industrial Engineering.

There were 212 steam boilers, 3 vulcanizers and 4 digesters at the beginning of the year against 208 steam boilers, 3 vulcanizers and 4 digesters in 1113. Four boilers were newly registered during the year. Of the 219 boilers with which the year began, 65 only had working licences the remaining 154 being either condemned or prohibited from working. Four boilers which had no working licences at the beginning of the year were examined and licensed and 3 which had licence at the beginning of the year were prohibited from working. In all, 60 boilers were examined and licensed.

Much progress was made in the activities of this commercial department. The construction of the washing plant, the factory buildings and some of the furnaces having been completed, the refining of clay for use in the textile, paper and other industries was commenced. Washing of clay was conducted on a commercial scale and about 375 tons of the refined clay was sold. Stoneware of standard quality was produced. Pickle jars of various sizes and different glazes that are being manufactured in the factory could be placed in the market and sold at competitive prices. Stone-ware pipes for use as sewers in the Drainage Department made in the factory were tested and approved by that department. The furnaces and chimney were constructed with bricks made in the factory itself. With the appointment of a Mining Supervisor the output of mined material increased considerably.

Ceramic Factory, Kundara.

The Sugar Factory at Thuckalai made good progress under the management of the Travancore Sugars and Chemicals Ltd. A total quantity of 3,150 tons of first grade white sugar against 2487 tons in 1113 were manufactured during the year, which mostly found a ready market within the State. The factory also manufactured 1,280 tons of treacle, a useful by-product in the process of sugar refining, part of which was sold to the Nagercoil Distillery for use in the distillation of alcohol. The manufacture of pharmaceutical preparations which also formed one of the activities of the Travancore Sugars and Chemicals, Ltd., showed considerable increase in the number of items produced and the general turn-over. The products were of standard B. P. specifications.

Sugar Manufacture.

The working of the Punalur Paper Mills during the year was satisfactory. About 470 tons of Brown and Badami paper were manufactured. All the paper produced found a ready sale and the demand was increasing.

Paper Manufacture.

The West Coast Chemicals and Industries, Ltd., manufactured 41,218 gross boxes against 6,500 gross during the previous year.

Match Manufacture.

Miscellaneous Industries.

The Sri Chitra Mills at Alwaye carried on bleaching and finishing and the products found a ready market. The Travancore Wood Works manufactured mostly small articles such as block letters, figures, etc. The Confectionary factory at Nedumangad conducted by Messrs. T. N. Motha & Sons continued to manufacture almost all varieties of confectionary. The sweets were made out of pure cane sugar and glucose and they found a ready sale in Travancore and elsewhere. The necessary machinery was installed in the Power Laundry at Trivandrum and it began work. The Cape Canning and Cold Storage Company, Ltd., made much progress during the year and an extensive area in the Pallivasal pakuthi has been given on long lease to the company for the cultivation of pine apple, etc. The Ayurvedic Compound Tinctures, Ltd., were granted certain concessions, including the lease of 5 acres of land within the municipal limits of Trivandrum, for the manufacture of Ayurvedic tinctures and tonics, using cocoanut toddy as base. Actual manufacturing had not commenced when the year closed. The Indian Textiles, Ltd., is another concern which had completed during the year preliminary work for its formation. The aim of the company is to manufacture the better class of cotton and silk fabrics on handloom and power looms. An extent of 5 acres of land at the Trivandrum beach had been leased to the company during the year. Lac culture was introduced by private efforts with satisfactory results and the prospects of the industry appeared to be encouraging. The opening of a sports goods factory was under the investigation of Government.

Sri Mulam Technical School, Trivandrum.

There were 64 students in the school at the beginning of the year against 60 at the beginning of the year 1113, 16 and 15 respectively in the Junior and Senior Mechanical and Electrical Overseers' classes, 10 and 11 respectively in the Junior and Senior Mechanical and Electrical Overseers' classes and 12 in the Maistry class. The employees of the Electrical Department selected for training in Electrical Engineering also underwent their prescribed course of studies during the year. The annual examinations were held in Meenam 1114 and out of the 46 students who sat for the examinations 44 came out successful. On the re-opening of

the school after the mid-summer vacation the institution was transferred to and amalgamated with the College of Engineering under the University.

S. M. R. V. Technical Institute, Nagercoil.

At the beginning of the year, there were 24 students on the rolls. Out of the five students who appeared for the final examination four came out successful. The strength of the school at the close of the year was 26. The students were given instruction in the theory and practice of weaving and in dyeing and block printing. A proposal for the introduction of power looms in the institute was sanctioned during the year and arrangements were made for the purchase and installation of the machines.

Madras Government Technical Examinations.

The Madras Government Technical Examinations and the London Chamber of Commerce Examinations were conducted by the department twice in the year. The Madras Government Technical Examinations in November 1938 were held at Trivandrum, Mavelikara and Alleppey, and the April examinations (1939) at Nagercoil, Trivandrum and Alleppey. During the year under report, Nagercoil was made a centre for the Madras Government Technical Examinations in weaving. The total number of candidates that appeared for the Madras Government Technical Examinations and the London Chamber of Commerce Examinations at the various centres were 1,290 and 1,503 respectively.

School of Commerce, Alleppey.

The subjects taught in the school were book-keeping, banking, shorthand, typewriting and commercial practice. There were 42 students on the rolls during the first term and 38 during the second term. The students were presented for the Madras Government Technical Examinations and the London Chamber of Commerce Examinations in the respective subjects held in November 1938 and April 1939.

Industrial Schools.

There were 66 aided and 30 unaided schools at the beginning of the year. The grant withheld for one of the schools was revived during the year. 13 new schools were opened with the permission of the department. Thus at the close of the year there were 67 aided schools and 42 unaided

schools and 28 commercial schools. The total strength of the aided schools was 1,609. Of the aided schools, 44 were in the Trivandrum Division, 10 in the Quilon Division and 13 in the Kottayam Division. Cotton weaving was taught in the majority of the industrial schools, the other subjects taught being carpentry and smithery, coir, mat and carpet weaving, rattan industry, drawing and painting and commercial subjects. The Textile Assistant under the department conducted the inspection of the weaving schools during the year. The total expenditure on account of grants-in-aid during the year was Rs. 19,255.

The Itinerant Weaving party attached to the Textile section of the department camped at Akaparambu, Angamali, during the year and gave training in weaving to the pupils belonging to the backward communities.

Miscellaneous.

No new industrial loan was granted during the year. The Travancore Government Technical Examinations in Malayalam Shorthand and Typewriting, and other subjects were conducted by the Board of Examiners. The Sales Depot at Trivandrum, for the exhibition and sale of Travancore industrial products, was continued on a temporary basis. The number of individuals and institutions exhibiting their articles for sale in the depot increased from 85 to 122 during the year. The total sales from the depot during the year amounted to Rs. 5,523 and the institution earned a commission of Rs. 1,955. During the year under report, the department not only participated in the various exhibitions held in the State and outside, but also collected and forwarded, for permanent display, representative exhibits to the All India Village Industries Association, Wardha, the All India Cottage Industries Museum, New Delhi, the Museum organised under the auspices of the Calicut Municipality and the Cottage Industries Museum at New Delhi organised by the All India Women's Conference. Exhibits were also forwarded to the Women's section of the Empire Exhibition, Glasgow. At the instance of the Secretary, All India Village Industries Association, Wardha, models representing the various processes at work in the indigenous industries of Travancore were specially made and forwarded to the Museum of the Association. These were highly appreciated.

The Industrial Library had 1,963 books at the end of the year under report and was in receipt of 31 periodicals and occasional publications. The Library was made use of by 340 persons, besides officers of the department and the students undergoing training in the various institutions under the department.

The Sri Mulam Shastiabdapurthi Memorial Institute, established by public subscription in commemoration of the 60th birthday of His Highness Sri Mulam Thirunal, the late Maharaja, continued to work under the control of its committee of management. It serves as an advertising agency for the commercial and industrial products of the State. The sale proceeds of the exhibits belonging to the institute during the year amounted to Rs. 1,662 against Rs. 1,154, in the previous year. The Library attached to the institute was visited by 3,703 persons. A special show was put up in Dhanu 1114 in connection with the Viceregal visit and the visit of His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner. The Sri Mulam Thirunal Day which came off on the 15th Kanni 1114 was celebrated as usual.

Besides several oral enquiries, 178 written enquiries were received and attended to by the department. Copies of the trade enquiries published by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, were placed in the Industrial Library for the use of the public. Several enquiries and questionnaires received from the various sub-committees of the National Planning Committee were answered.

The annual contribution of Rs. 600 to the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay, and of £ 50 to the Imperial Institute, London, were continued. During the year the exhibition of the Travancore products in the exhibition galleries of the Imperial Institute was completed. This was done in the most efficient manner according to modern methods of display. A new diorama of the Alleppey harbour was also installed with the show cases displaying samples of the varied products of the State. The Director of the Imperial Institute published a press communique announcing the installation of the new diorama in the chief newspapers of the United Kingdom and India.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The receipts of the department amounted to Rs. 20,002 against Rs. 1,06,078 in 1113 and the expenditure to Rs. 1,08,680 against Rs. 1,50,132 in 1113. The net expenditure of the department was Rs. 88,678 against Rs. 44,054 in the previous year.

Economic Development Board.

Constitution and Meetings of the Board.

The Economic Development Board was constituted in order to co-ordinate the activities of the several development departments and to secure non-official advice in the development of the economic resources of the State, in the establishment of new industries and in the expansion of old ones. There were 32 members on the Board during the year of whom 10 were officials and 22 non-officials.

There were two sessions of the Board in the year, consisting of three general meetings; and seven committees of the Board worked on the investigation of various special questions. The chief subjects considered by the Board wherein recommendations were made to Government were the following:—

(1) A scheme for the collection and compilation of statistics.

(2) The need for an expert enquiry into the Government's forest policy.

(3) State-aid to export trade.

(4) Special allotment for minor irrigation works.

The Travancore Economic Journal.

The Travancore Economic Journal was being published by the Board regularly every month from January 1939. Seven issues were published in 1114, each containing on the average 55 pages of original articles in English, Malayalam or Tamil.

Expenditure.

The expenditure on account of the Board amounted to Rs. 9,092 against Rs. 8,450 in the previous year.

Joint Stock Cmpanies.

Registrar. *Mr. K. Madhava Kurup, M. A.*

Number and Nature of Companies.

Twenty-three companies were registered during the year. Of these, 19 were limited by shares and two limited by guarantee; and the remaining two were associations not for profit. The subjoined table gives a comparative statement of the different classes of companies registered during the years 1110 to 1114.

Classification of companies.	1110	1111	1112	1113	1114
Banking and loan	2	8	7	9	1
Nidhis and *chit* associations	..	..	1	1	1
Transit and transport	1	6	7	6	..
Trading and manufacturing	3	13	28	30	11
Mills and presses	..	1	1	1	1
Tea and other planting companies	2	2	21	3	5
Mining and quarrying	..	..	1	2	1
Sugar (including jaggery manufacture)	.	..	1	..	..
Breweries and distilleries	..	..	...	1	..
Hotels, theatres and entertainments	..	..	..	1	1
Companies other than those specified above	..	1	.	2	..
Charitable associations	1	4	4	2	2
Total	9	35	71	58	23

As in the previous year the majority of the companies newly registered was for trading and manufacturing. The total authorised, subscribed and paid up capitals of the companies limited by shares registered during the year was Rs. 27·65, Rs. 14·61 and Rs. 12·75 lakhs, respectively, as against Rs. 91·48, Rs. 13·19 and Rs. 1·93 lakhs, respectively in the previous year. The number of joint stock companies, limited by shares at work at the close of 1114 was 447 of which 332 were public companies and 115 private ones, the corresponding figures for 1113 being 478, 355 and 123. Including one *nidhi* 222 companies were conducting banking

business at the end of 1114. The authorised, subscribed and paid-up capital of the 222 companies limited by shares at work at the close of the year were Rs. 5,00,36,261, Rs. 1,53,16,433 and Rs. 60,19,233 respectively. Companies engaged in trade and manufacture numbered 108, tea and other planting companies 64, transit and transport 14, and the remaining companies were engaged in diverse activities such as conducting hotels, theatres and entertainments, breweries and distilleries, sugar manufacture, mills and presses etc. The number of companies limited by guarantee, not being charitable associations, at work at the end of the year was 16 against 22 in the previous year. Charitable associations numbered 44 against 41 in 1113. The taluk of Tiruvalla had the largest number of working companies (74), Trivandrum and Kottayam came next (66 each) and Ambalapuzha occupied the third place (61). The number of Provident Insurance Societies registered under Act III of 1108 at work at the close of the year was 10. Fifteen trade unions were registered during the year and including the four registered in 1113 the number at the end of 1114 was 19.

Total Capital.

The total authorised, subscribed and paid up capital of the 447 companies limited by shares at work at the close of the year were 11·45 crores, 3·97 crores and 2·63 crores respectively. The corresponding figures for the 478 such companies at the end of the previous year were 12·06 crores, 3·82 crores and 2·63 crores. There was a decrease of 61 lakhs under authorised capital and 15 lakhs under subscribed capital while there was an increase of 12 lakhs under paid-up capital.

Certified Auditors.

The number of private auditors who held licences at the end of the year under the Travancore Companies Act was 41 of whom six held permanent licences.

Prosecutions.

Five prosecutions were pending disposal at the end of the previous year of which one ended in conviction during the year and in the other four cases the prosecutions were withdrawn. Four prosecutions were instituted in 1114 as against 15 in the previous year. One was withdrawn and the other three cases were pending disposal at the end of the year.

Foreign Companies.

The number of companies established outside Travancore and having places of business inside the State at the end of 1114 was 89 as against 90 in the previous year. Of these 10 were engaged in banking, 20 in insurance, 4 in transit and transport, 23 in trading and manufacturing, 25 in planting, 2 in mining and quarrying, one in entertainment and 4 in other miscellaneous works; 32 were incorporated in England, 5 in Scotland, one in Holland, 2 in Australia, one in New South Wales, 3 in the United States of America, one in Japan, 5 in Colombo, 32 in British India, one in Hyderabad, 5 in Cochin and one in Pudukotta.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The receipts from the department rose from Rs. 18,706 to Rs. 24,460 and the expenditure also rose from Rs. 9,524 to Rs. 11,367.

Co-operative Department.

Registrar.

Mr. P. Parameswaran Pillai, B. A., B. L. (*from* 1-1-1114 *to* 8-2-1114).

Mr. A. Krishna Pillai, B. A. (In charge from 8-2-1114 *to* 19-2-1114).

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao, B. A. (Land Revenue and Income-Tax Commissioner in charge, from 19-2-1114 *till the end of the year).*

General.

A Co-operative Societies Act was enacted in Travancore in 1089 M. E. The first Registrar of Co-operative Societies was appointed two years later and he organised the department with one Inspector to start with. Since then the department has developed considerably. At the beginning of the year under report the staff of the department consisted of a Registrar, a Personal Assistant, two Assistant Registrars and 39 Inspectors. During the year, the staff was augmented by the appointment of 8 temporary Inspectors for liquidation work. An additional Assistant Registrar was also appointed for liquidation work.

The department continued the policy of rectification and consolidation of societies and also of cautious expansion. The policy of weeding out bad and hopeless societies was followed by the department. The co-operative movement had to face yet another year of slump in the prices of agricultural produce and the unfavourable seasonal and economic conditions contributed not a little to cripple the agricultural resources of the rural population. In view of the very hard times of the agriculturists, the department favoured the grant of liberal concessions in the matter of repayment of overdues. During the year greater attention was devoted to the development of non-credit activities. 17 non-credit societies were newly registered and several rural credit societies adopted non-credit activities as a side business.

Number and Nature of Societies.

The year opened with 1,704 societies on the rolls. During the year 18 societies were registered and 67 were cancelled. There were 1,655 societies on the rolls at the end of the year of which 19 had not started work. The working societies may be classified thus:—

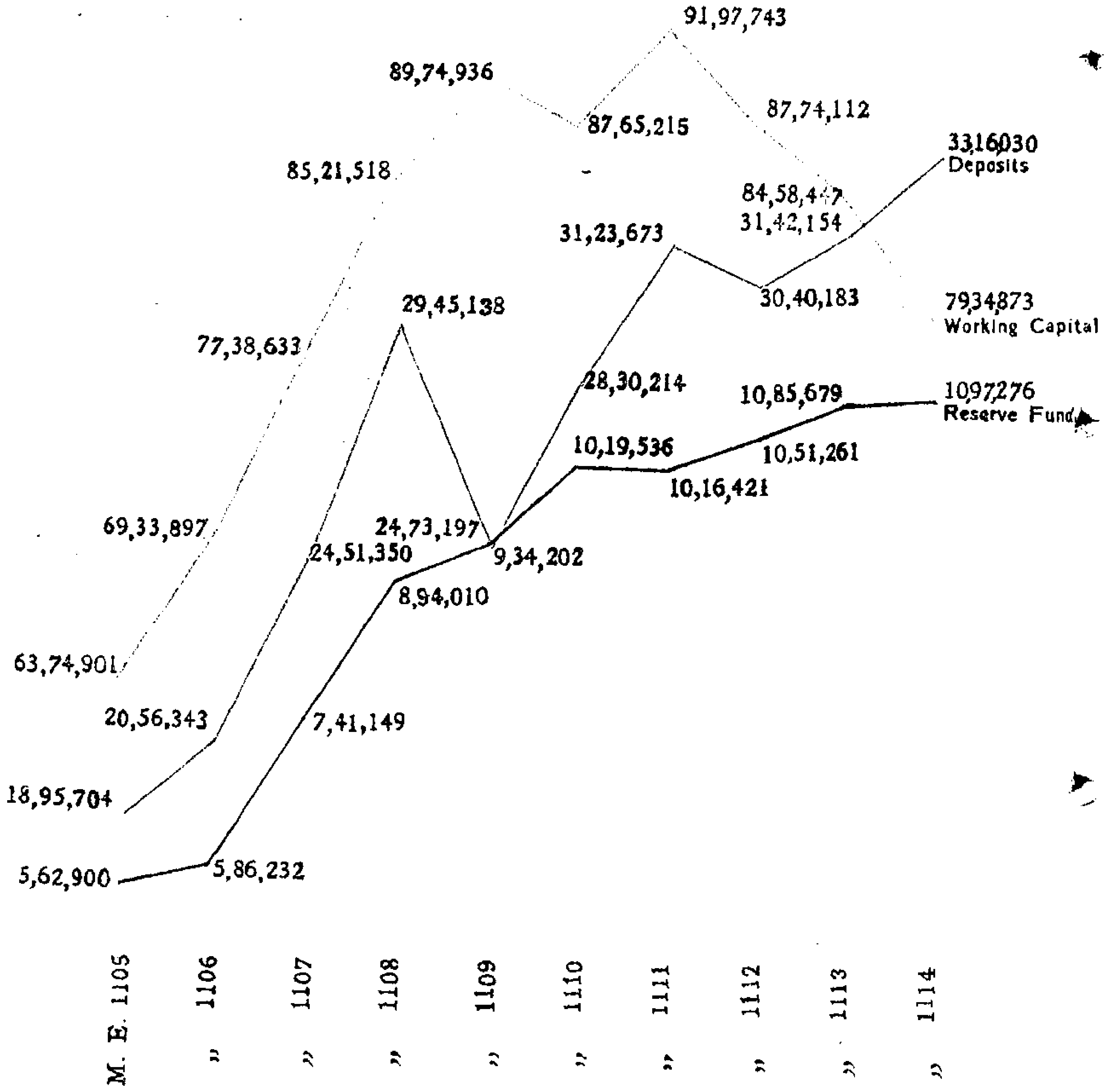
	Description.		*Number.*
1.	Central Bank	...	1
2.	Central Institute	...	1
3.	Central Weaving Society	...	1
4.	Central Wholesale Society	...	1
5.	Supervising Unions	...	24
6.	Taluk Banks including Banking Unions	...	20
7.	Urban Banks	...	16
8.	Agricultural credit societies	...	1,222
9.	Do. with production and sale	...	11
10.	Non-agricultural credit societies	...	241
11.	Do. with production and sale	...	12
12.	Distributive societies	...	54
13.	Other types (including benefit funds)	...	32
	Total	...	1,636

Financial progress of the Co-operative Movement.

Note :—1. Each square with a blue line and figures denoting the amount of Reserve Fund of societies represents Rs. 1 lakh.

2. Each square with a green line and figures denoting the amount of deposits in societies represents Rs. 2 lakhs.

3. Each square with a red line and figures denoting the amount of working capital in societies represents Rs. 4 lakhs.

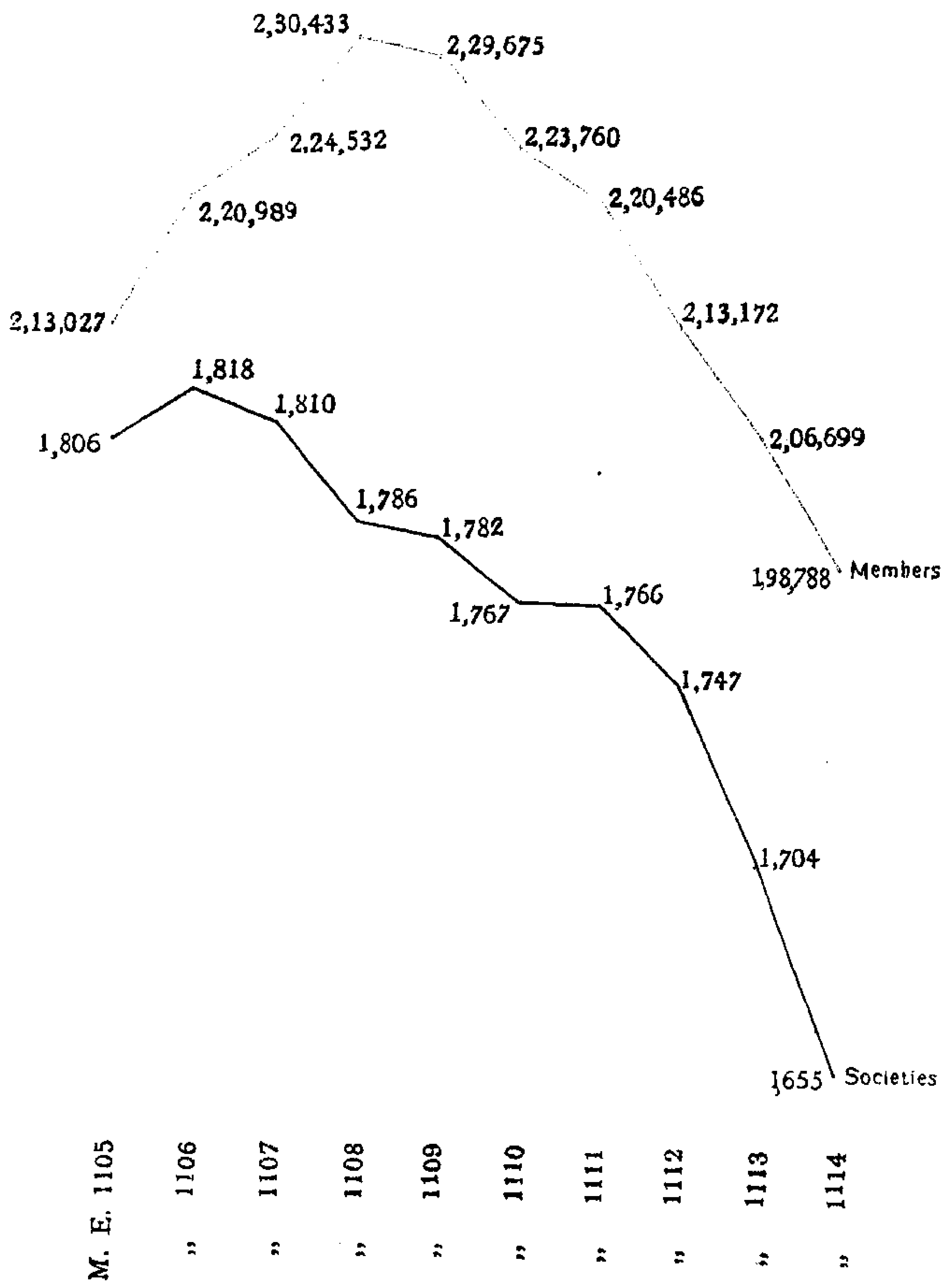


Litho, The Art Printing Works, Trivandrum.

Progress of the Co-operative Movement in Number of Societies and Membership.

Note:—1. Each square with a blue line and figures denoting the number of societies represents 20.

2. Each square with a red line and figures denoting the number of members in Co-operative Societies represents 5000.



Litho, The Art Printing Works, Trivandrum.

Membership.

The total number of individual members in all societies together fell from 206,699 to 198,788, giving an average of 125 as against 123 in the previous year. There was a fall of 7,911 in the aggregate membership as against a fall of 6,473 in the previous year. This fall was mainly due to the policy of weeding out defunct societies and the growing tendency on the part of the members to withdraw from membership by setting off their share amount against loans. The membership of the Central Bank including other central societies fell from 3,054 to 2,946, that of agricultural societies from 137,681 to 129,069 while that of non-agricultural societies rose from 65,964 to 66,773. Classified according to occupation, 86,390 members were agriculturists, 72,012 were non-agriculturists, 11,031 were artisans and the rest derived their income partly from agriculture and partly from other sources.

The total number of women members was 24,004 as against 24,096 in the previous year, the proportion of women to men members being 1 to 7. The number of women members represented 1 per cent. of the women population of the State.

Finances.

The following comparative statement indicates the financial condition of the movement during the year in respect of share capital, deposits and working capital of societies :-

	Share capital.		Receipts under deposits.		Disbursements under deposits.		Working capital.	
	1113	1114	1113	1114	1113	1114	1113	1114
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Central Bank .	1,44,710	1,40,100	6,58,100	2,66,047	8,27,042	5,63,311	15,14,334	12,67,043
Agricultural societies .	17,97,910	17,06,776	2,68,437	3,42,049	2,57,434	1,98,192	33,99,129	32,85,675
Non-agricultural societies .	14,28,261	13,69,103	8,54.874	7,93,405	7,79,646	8,49,473	35,44,522	33,81,368
Total .	33,70,881	32,15,979	16,81,411	14,01,501	18,64,122	16,10,976	84,57,985	79,34,086

Reserve Fund.

The total reserve fund of all the societies excluding that of the Central Bank at the end of the year was Rs. 10·34 lakhs against Rs. 10·71 lakhs in the previous year, of which a sum of Rs. 6·43 lakhs was invested outside.

Loans.

The total number of loans issued during the year by the Central Bank, the taluk banks and the primary societies together fell from 18,822 in 1113 to 17,259 in 1114 of which 17,169 loans amounting to Rs. 10·41 lakhs were issued to individuals, and 90 loans amounting to Rs. 1·34 lakhs were issued to the societies by the Central Bank and the taluk banks. The bulk of the loans to individuals was granted as in the previous year, for discharging prior debts, the amount disbursed for the purpose being Rs. 5·38 lakhs. The loans for trade amounted to Rs. 1·40 lakhs and the loans for agricultural purposes amounted to Rs. 72,102. The balance under the principal to be collected at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 37·51 lakhs, the percentage of balance to demand being 72·1 per cent. against 70·4 in the previous year. The percentage of balance to demand under interest was 79·0 against 74·8 in the previous year.

The Central Co-operative Bank.

The Trivandrum Central Co-operative Bank is the premier financing apex bank and the first co-operative society to be registered in the State. The number of members of the bank fell from 3,713 to 3,608 during the year (682 societies and 2,926 individuals). There was a fall under the deposits received and the withdrawals were heavy. While the bank held Rs. 12·7 lakhs under the several items of deposits at the end of the previous year, they amounted to only Rs. 10·3 lakhs at the close of the year. The paid-up share capital fell from Rs. 1,44,710 to Rs. 1,40,100. The working capital of the bank was Rs. 12,67,043 against Rs. 15,14,334 in the previous year. The bank advanced 81 loans during the year aggregating to Rs. 103,937 of which 65 loans amounting to Rs. 38,037 were granted to individual members, 16 loans for Rs. 65,900 to societies and 4 loans for Rs. 37,500 to taluk banks. The reserve fund of the bank amounted to Rs. 63,320.

Urban Banks

The urban banks form the principal agency providing co-operative finance for the middle class population inhabiting the urban areas in the State. Their number at the end of the year was 16 against 18 in the previous year and their total membership was 9,242 as against 10,449 in the previous year. Their working capital was Rs. 5,50,448 and their reserve fund was Rs. 42,676. They earned a net profit of Rs. 14,425 although four of them worked at a loss of Rs. 12,676.

Taluk Banks.

The various taluk banks constitute the financial agency interlinking the apex bank with the rural primary societies. There were 20 such banks in the State and of these there were banking unions attending also to supervision and inspection of affiliated societies. Most of the taluk banks did business with societies as well as with individuals. The taluk banks issued 74 loans to societies amounting to Rs. 68,497 and 2,706 loans to individuals for Rs. 1,47,805. Their working capital was Rs. 15,28,738 and paid-up share capital was Rs. 5,23,684, the corresponding figures for the previous year being Rs. 15,84,712 and Rs. 5,49,678 respectively. The total number of society members in all the taluk banks fell from 847 to 818 and that of individual members from 12,145 to 11,626.

Agricultural Societies.

There were 1,233 agricultural societies at the end of the year. The following figures show their position :—

	1112	1113	1114
Number of societies ...	1,346	1,290	1,233
Number of members...	142,809	137,681	129,069
Working capital ...	3,635,987	3,399,129	3,285,675
Reserve fund ...	687,735	6,98,950	703,176

The percentage of overdues under loans in these societies was 79·2 as against 77·1 in the previous year. As in 1113, the department continued to bestow special attention on popularising the '*Kettuthengu*' deposits in táluks where cocoanut trees grow in abundance. The members who borrowed money were induced to repay their dues to the societies in kind by adopting this system and by means of this method these societies collected 34·70 lakhs of cocoanuts to the value of Rs. 1,00,890

Non-Agricultural Societies.

The number of non-agricultural societies including those engaged in non-credit activities was 341 at the end of the year and they had a total membership of 45,925 against 65,984 in the previous year. Their working capital was Rs. 13·03 lakhs against Rs. 35·45 lakhs in 1113 and their reserve funds amounted to Rs. 1·76 lakhs against Rs. 3·26 lakhs in 1113.

Societies for Backward Communities.

There were 167 societies for backward communities at the end of the year against 173 in the previous year. There were also some colony societies for these classes of people. These societies had a total membership of 13,062, a paid-up share capital aggregating to Rs. 1,13,258 and a reserve fund aggregating to Rs. 36,573.

Women's Societies.

There were 9 societies worked exclusively by members; of these 4 were conducting non-credit activities while the others carried on credit business.

Non-credit Activities.

As in the previous year, special attention was bestowed by the department on the development of the non-credit side of the co-operative movement. During the year 17 non-credit societies were newly registered and several rural credit societies adopted as a side business such non-credit activities as joint purchase and sale, rural reconstruction work and *kettu-thengu* deposit system. There were 44 distributive societies working at the end of the year of which 23 were pure distributive societies and 21 school stores. The premier distributive society in the State was the Trivandrum Distributive Co-operative Society Ltd., with 14 branches in the different centres of the town which purchased articles to the value of S. Rs. 2,03,124 and had sales to the extent of S. Rs. 2,22,145. The foremost among the school stores societies was His Highness the Maharaja's College of Science Co-operative Stores Ltd., Trivandrum, which stocked goods to the value of Rs. 10,875 and carried on sales for Rs. 10,620. There were 7 societies engaged in dairy farming and cattle breeding, 4 in house building and 6 engaged in rural reconstruction work. The Travancore Co-operative Insurance Society Ltd., was cancelled and placed under liquidation. Of the 3 poultry

societies, the Marthandom Y. M. C. A. Poultry Co-operative Society did the largest volume of business. The society besides inducing its members to rear improved varieties of poultry bestowed its attention on the several details preliminary to the marketing of eggs, such as proper testing, grading and efficient packing. The society collected 123,055 eggs and sold them for Rs. 7,140. Efforts were made to organise sale societies for pooling, grading and co-operative marketing of the agricultural produce of the members and 6 societies of this type were registered during the year. Two societies were engaged in the collection and sale of lime shells. The Travancore Humanitarian Co-operative Society Ltd., conducted and controlled the services pertaining to the Discharged Prisoners Aid Society. The Trivandrum Co-operative Home Ltd., afforded facilities for boarding and lodging.

Disputes and Litigation.

The number of disputes referred for arbitration during the year was 4,960 for claims aggregating to Rs. 4,11,928. The number of references heard and disposed of in the year was 2,614 for Rs. 2,17,620. At the end of the year 11,277 references for Rs. 6,37,292 were pending disposal.

Non-official Supervision.

The agency for non-official supervision is composed of 24 taluk supervising unions and the 3 banking unions, with the Central Co-operative Institute as their federated body. The working of most of these institutions was unsatisfactory. The number of societies affiliated to the unions was 1,415. Their receipts amounted to Rs. 58,956 as against Rs. 45,831 in the previous year. The contribution from Government was Rs. 2,431 as against Rs. 2,892 in the previous year.

Inspection and Audit.

The statutory function of audit work rested solely with the officers of the department. Of the 1,636 societies working, 26 were not audited since the records of these were in courts. On a classification of these societies according to their efficiency based on the audit conducted in the year, it was seen that there were 37 societies in A class (model), 107 in B class (good), 777 in C class (average), 638 in D class (hopeless) and the remaining 51 societies unclassified. According

to the collection test 16 societies had 95 per cent. collection, 69 had 70 per cent. collection, 90 had 65 per cent., 110 had 40 per cent. and 699 had below 40 per cent. collection. The societies that did not issue loans and those not classified according to collection test numbered 626.

Cost of Working the Co-operative Societies Act.

The cost to Government during the year in working the Co-operative Societies Act amounted to Rs. 91,476 against Rs. 80,799 in 1113, the increase in the cost *viz.*, Rs. 10,490 being mainly due to the increase in the field staff. The percentage of total cost to the total working capital was 1·1 as against 0·94 in the previous year. The expenditure incurred by the societies themselves fell from Rs. 1·90 lakhs to Rs. 1·80 lakhs, its percentage to the total working capital being 2·2 as in the previous year and the average cost per society was Rs. 109 as against Rs. 113 in the previous year.

Patents and Designs.

Controller.

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai, B. A., (from 1-1-1114 *to* 11-1-1114).

Mr. R. Krishnaswami Rao, B. A., B. L. (*from* 20-1-1114 *to* 29-5-114)

Mr. P. Parameswaran Pillai, B. A., *B. L.* (*from* 1-6-1114 *till the end of the year*).

Thirteen patents in respect of the following inventions were sealed during the year :—

(1) Improved process and apparatus for extracting cashew-nut shell oil.

(2) An improved method of or means for the extraction of nut shell oil.

(3) Improved process of producing a cement forming material and apparatus therefor.

(4) A rapid pile driving plant.

(5) Tea withering apparatus.

(6) Improved process and apparatus for the extraction of liquid from cashew-nut shells.

(7) Improvements in tea rolling machines.

(8) Improvements in or relating to the separation of solid materials.

(9) Improvements in or relating to processes and apparatus for the extraction of cellulosic fibres from vegetable material.

(10) The manufacture of a leather-like substance from the green immature nuts of the cocoanut palm.

(11) Process for the production of bleachable straw half stuffs and straw pulps.

(12) Improvements in and relating to the application of protective coatings to metal pipes and the like.

(13) Improvements relating to the manufacture or lining of pipes by centrifugal action.

Two of these patents *viz.*, Nos. (4) and (10) above were granted to Travancoreans.

No design was registered during the year.

The receipts amounted to Rs. 1,903 against Rs. 2,008 in the previous year and the expenditure to Rs. 333.

Factories.

There were 298 factories at the end of 1114 against 205 at the end of 1113. Of these, 96 factories were in the Kottayam Division, 201 in the Quilon Division and 1 in the Trivandrum Division. Most of the factories in the Kottayam Division were engaged in the manufacture of tea. The factories in the other Divisions were engaged in the manufacture of tiles, coir yarn, coir matting, tea, rubber, paper, sugar, cocoanut oil, cashewnut kernals, wood-works, etc. The factories were worked either by oil, gas or steam engine, manual labour, electricity or water power or by two or more of the above combined.

Labour Conditions.

The approximate number of hands employed in all the factories together was 57,104 including nearly 26,133 women and 8,780 children. The average rate of daily wages varied from 3 annas to 12 annas per head for adults and from 2 annas to 4 annas per head for children. The duration of working hours varied from 8 to 10 hours a day.

Uplift of Backward Communities.

The members of the backward communities of the State for purposes of amelioration number 8,17,963 and they represent 16 per cent. of the total population.

General. The Department of the Protector of Backward Communities continued to be under the general supervision and control of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the Travancore University. The main items of uplift work comprised the following *viz.*, assignment of lands on concessional terms, establishment of colonies, opening of centres for ameliorative work, etc., provision of common buildings, wells and burial grounds, employment in public service, educational concessions, organisation of thrift societies and popularisation of industries.

The total area of the land earmarked for concessional registry to backward communities was 15,746 acres at the beginning of the year.

Assignment of Lands on Concessional terms. The extent of lands actually assigned during the year was 158 acres from the earmarked area and 296 acres from outside that area.

Colonies for backward communities in the following places were in existence at the beginning of the year *viz.*, Narikulam, Kulathur and Meenamkulam.

Colonies. During the year the *Sachivottamapuram* colony at Kurichi was opened as a model colony and arrangements were in progress for the establishment of colonies at Anchamada, Venganoor and Veliyathnad. Preliminary arrangements were made for starting colonies in the Prokad, Kunnathur and Kulakada pakuthies. Three centres were selected last year for intensive ameliorative work and much progress was made in these centres.

The revised classification of communities for fee concessions in schools and colleges on the basis of the percentage of literacy of the school-going population of each community was followed during the year.

Educational Concessions. Stipends and scholarships were given to deserving students and a graduate of the Parava community was given a scholarship for prosecuting his studies in social work in the Tata Graduate School of Social Work, Bombay. Free supply of books to the children of the backward communities reading in classes III and IV of the

Malayam and Tamil schools in the State was continued during the year.

Hostels, Orphanages, etc.

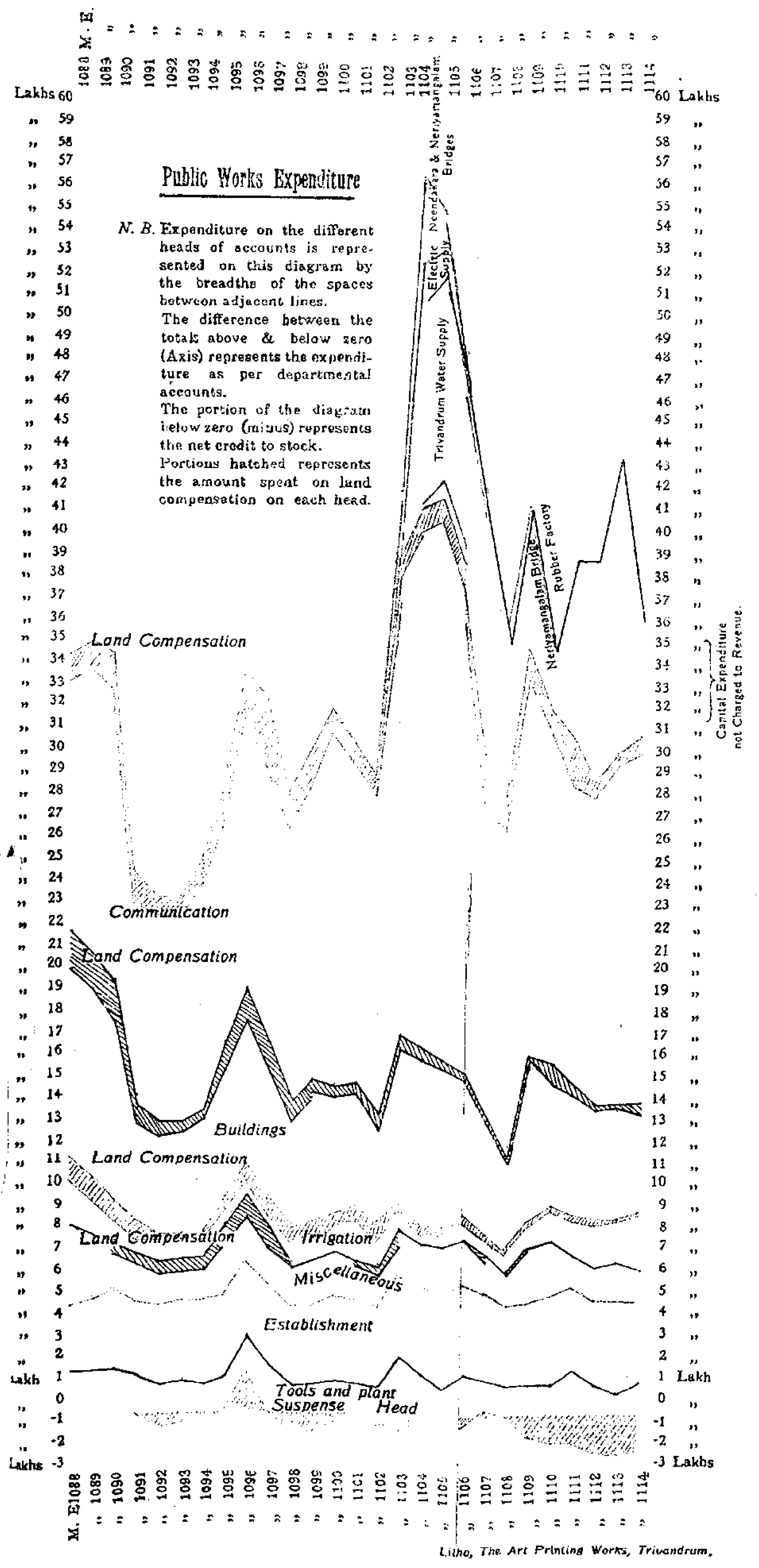
Grants were paid for the maintenance of hostels, boarding houses, orphanages and reading rooms and libraries intended for the children of the backward communities. The free Harijan Hostel at Trivandrum run by the Harijan Sevak Sangh was taken over under departmental management. A grant of Rs. 807 was paid to the Hindu Mahila Mandiram which managed a hostel for Harijan girls and a grant of Rs. 290 was given to the Harijan School at Elanthur. The following institutions were in receipt of grants *viz.*, the Hindu Pulaya Hostel at Ayroor, the Orphanage at Chunakara, Sri Ramakrishna Asram, Adoor, Sri Ramakrishna Seva Sadan, Thadiyoor, and Sri Karthika Thirunal Reading Room and Library, Pullad.

General Ameliorative Work.

Provision of common buildings for social and congregational purposes was another item of work in which the department was interested. A building at Mavelikara was constructed by the department during the year. A sum of Rs. 250 was given to the *Cheramar Sangham* for the construction of a building at Kombady and a sum of Rs. 400 was paid to the Kerala Hindu Mission for constructing a common building for the Harijan colony established by the Mission at Kadambanad. The Pulaya community at Edayaranmula was given a sum of Rs. 350 for the construction of a common building at the place. There was great demand for the provision of wells in the localities inhabited by the backward communities and 24 such new wells were sunk and 7 old wells were repaired, During the year under review, burial grounds for backward communities were provided in 8 places and arrangements for the provision of 12 more burial grounds were in progress. For the encouragement of thrift and self help—among the backward communities, thrift societies were organised in a few centres and 8 such societies were working during the year.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure incurred by the several departments on account of uplift work during the year 1114 amounted to Rs. 1,71,926 against Rs. 1,24,155 in 1113.



Litho, The Art Printing Works, Trivandrum,

CHAPTER IX.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department.

Chief Engineer. — *Mr. G. B. E. Truscott (from 1-1-1114 to 22-12-1114.)*
Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar, B. A., B. E., M. I. E., (Ind.) (Officiating from 22-12-1114 till the end of the year.)

Outlay.

A sum of Rs. 35·70 lakhs was spent on Public Works in 1114, excluding a stock suspense of Rs. 1·54 lakhs and the cost of contribution works amounting to Rs. 1·60 lakhs. A sum of Rs. 3·65 lakhs was spent on capital works and the main items of capital expenditure were (i) the Town Planning Scheme, Trivandrum —Rs. 1·09 lakh; (ii) Military works—Rs. 0·99 of a lakh; (iii) the Council Chamber—Rs. 0·79 of a lakh; (iv) Ceramic works, Kundara—Rs. 0·23 of a lakh; and (v) the University buildings—Rs. 0·48 of a lakh. The expenditure on ordinary public works, charged to revenue, including the Road Development Fund, was Rs. 32·05 lakhs, mainly under the following items :—

	Rs. in lakhs
Communications ...	17·62
Buildings ...	4·29
Miscellaneous Public Improvement	0·59
Protective Irrigation ...	2·28
Establishment ...	4·77
Tools and Plant ...	0·70

Communications.

The development of communications has always formed an important item on the State's programme of Public Works. Funds are provided from the general revenues for the construction and maintenance of roads. 'A Road Development Fund' has been instituted, solely for the purpose of opening and improving trunk roads. The existing road system, which is well co-ordinated within the State itself, is connected with the road systems of the adjacent Districts and the Cochin State, so as to ensure through traffic. There are main

arterial roads throughout the length and breadth of the State to which is linked a network of subsidiary and feeder roads. The road system also connects the internal waterways and ports. It has further been constructed in such a manner as to open up and serve important planting areas and industrial centres. The phenomenal increase in motor traffic during recent years has led to the elaboration of a programme for widening the old highways to suit modern requirements and the allotment of increased maintenance grants. The major portion of the expenditure incurred by the Public Works Department from year to year has been under the item of communications. The expenditure during the current year was Rs. 17,61,853 against Rs. 16,93,012 in 1113. A sum of Rs. 6·64 lakhs was spent on the construction of new roads and bridges and for improving the existing ones; and a sum of Rs. 10·98 lakhs was utilised for the maintenance of the existing means of communications. The length of roads newly opened and improved during the year was 15 miles and 132 miles respectively, against 22 and 131 miles in 1113. The total length of communications maintained during the year was 5,403 miles consisting of 1,140 miles of metalled roads, 2,413 miles of unmetalled roads, 995 miles of village roads including cart tracks, 72 miles of planters' roads, 453 miles of traces and 329 miles of navigable canals and backwaters. This works out to ·67 of a mile of communication for every square mile in the State or 1·27 mile per square mile of the State's inhabited area. This is exclusive of the backwaters and navigable rivers. The average cost of maintenance was Rs. 462·88 per mile of metalled roads, Rs. 151·83 per mile of unmetalled roads, Rs. 26·20 for village roads, Rs. 165·06 for planters' roads, Rs. 33·84 for traces and Rs. 263·28 for canals. As remetalling of the road from Trivandrum to Cape Comorin was found to stand only from 3 to 6 months, it was decided that the road up to the 48th mile should be cement-concreted and the remaining 6 miles provided with tar-crete. Concreting work was accordingly started towards the end of the year.

Buildings.

The expenditure on buildings was Rs. 4,29,398 against Rs. 4,62,234 in 1113. Of this, Rs. 2,48,188 was spent on the construction of new buildings and special improvements to the existing ones; and the balance was utilised for annual repairs and maintenance.

Till recently, Government alone were responsible for constructing and maintaining roads in the State. Within the past few years, however, private enterprise has voluntarily come forward to co-operate with Government in opening new lines of communication. There is a system of "ryots roads" under which the roads are opened by the people themselves, the department merely advising alignment and constructing the necessary bridges and culverts. The roads, if satisfactory, are subsequently taken over and maintained by Government who assume the lands covered by the roads on payment of nominal compensation and record them as *poramboke*.

Ryots' Roads.

There was a separate irrigation division in the Public Works Department; but it was abolished towards the close of the year. The expenditure on protective irrigation works was Rs. 2,28,014, against Rs. 1,73,491 in 1113 M. E. Of this, Rs. 2,03,938 was spent on the construction of new irrigation works and the restoration of the existing ones and the balance of Rs. 24,076 for the maintenance of the existing sources of irrigation.

Irrigation—Protective.

The Kodayar Irrigation system is the most important irrigation work in the State. The gross total outlay on the work up to the end of 1114 stood at Rs. 87·9 lakhs and, deducting from it the total receipts from the sale of tank beds etc., credited to the capital account, the net outlay till the end of the year amounted to Rs. 81·13 lakhs. The gross revenue from the project during the year was Rs. 1,58,062, and the working expenses amounted to Rs. 86,805. A total length of nearly 327 miles of irrigation channels was maintained within the system; and the area of assessed lands which had the benefit of water from the Kodayar reservoir during the year was 56,106 acres.

Productive Irrigation—the Kodayar Irrigation system.

The outlay on establishment during the year was Rs. 4·79 lakhs, against Rs. 4·88 lakhs in 1113. The cost of establishment was 15 per cent. of the gross outlay, excluding that on capital works etc. not charged to revenue, against 15·7 per cent. in 1113.

Establishment.

The total receipts from the department during the year amounted to Rs. 8·29 lakhs against Rs. 9·45 lakhs in 1113.

Receipts.

The subvention from the Central Road Development Fund amounted to Rs. 78,638, against Rs. 2,22,537 in 1113.

Maramat Works.

Till the close of 1111 M. E., there was a separate Maramat Department, under a Maramat Engineer, for the execution of works connected with Devaswoms, *Oottupuras* (feeding houses), satroms (rest houses), other charitable institutions and palaces. The Maramat Department was amalgamated with the Public Works Department under the control of the Chief Engineer in 1112. A Maramat Committee was constituted to scrutinise the estimates of Devaswoms works. The expenditure incurred by the department on account of Government Maramat works during the year amounted to Rs. 43,216; and that on account of Devaswom Maramat works amounted to Rs. 2,11,321. The establishment charges amounted to Rs. 36,107.

Railways.

The total length of the railway line in the State was about 98 miles, excluding the portion of the Cochin-Shoranur Railway running through Travancore territory in the Alwaye P. W. Division. There was no railway extension or survey during the year.

The Quilon-Shencotta section of the Travancore Railway is worked under a guarantee in respect of interest on the capital spent thereon by the British Government. The capital required for the Quilon-Trivandrum line was met by the State; but the extension from Chakai to Thampanur was actually constructed by the State and handed over to the South Indian Railway for working.

The capital at charge for the three sections to the end of March 1939 is as follows :—

		Bh. Rs.
Quilon-Shencotta section	...	139.88 lakhs.
Quilon-Trivandrum (old Chakai station)	...	52.69 ,,
Chakai-Trivandrum Central	...	27.95 ,,

The working of the railway during the year ended in a loss of Bh. Rs. 0·73 of a lakh; and Government had to pay a sum of Bh. Rs. 0·52 of a lakh to make up the capital deficit for the payment of interest charges on the Quilon-Shencotta section. The total capital expenditure not charged to revenue during 1114 on account of railways, including the Chakai-Thampanur extension, was Bh. Rs. 32,004, against Bh. Rs. 69,788 of last year (1113).

Mr. M. L. Janardhana Pillai, Member, Sri Mulam Assembly, continued to represent the State on the South Indian Railway (Local) Advisory Committee during the year.

The over-audit of the Travancore railway accounts was taken up from the beginning of the year by the State Auditor and, as a result thereof, short-credits to the extent of Bh. Rs. 17,515 in round figures were subsequently adjusted by the South Indian Railway authorities to the credit of the Travancore railway accounts during the year under review.

During the year, the Government of India were pleased to allow the right of ownership of royal trees on railway lands being vested with the State.

Water Works and Drainage Engineering Department.

General.

The Water Works and Drainage Engineering Department was amalgamated with the Public Works Department and placed under the control of the Chief Engineer during the year.

The Willingdon Water Works, Trivandrum.

At a capital cost of about Rs. 57 lakhs, Government have provided the Trivandrum city with a protected water supply which is one of the most complete and up-to-date water supply projects in India. The project is worked by Government through the Water Works and Drainage Engineering Department; and the Trivandrum Municipality makes an annual contribution, towards the working expenses, meeting the cost by levying a water tax at the rate of 3 per cent. on the annual rental value of all the buildings situated within its limits and from the metered ratings from house connections and other miscellaneous water receipts. In point of chemical and bacteriological purity, safety and clarity, the water distributed from the Water Works stands comparison with

the water in any other town supply in the world and is decidedly superior to the water distributed in many Indian towns.

The first stage of the town distribution system was completed in 1111; and the second stage was completed during the year, excepting certain small items of work. The following works were completed during the year *viz.*,—

(i) layout of the premises of the Willingdon Water Works;

(ii) reconstruction and extension of the building of the office;

(iii) six leaching pools at Aruvikara to protect the reservoir from contamination;

(iv) construction of a bathing ghat at Aruvikara; and

(v) construction of 38 soak pits for street fountains.

The total length of mains at the end of the year was 121 miles.

The total quantity of water sent down for distribution during the year amounted to 350·149 million gallons against 294·216 million gallons in 1113, the average daily consumption being 0·9593 of a million gallons. The cost of manufacture of 1,000 gallons of water in 1114 was chs. 6 and cash 7, against chs. 8 and cash 5 in the previous year. The number of gravity services and pumping services in use at the end of the year was 549 and 1,220 respectively. Connections to private properties given during the year numbered 258. There were 583 street taps, against 563 in the previous year. The quantity of water supplied free from street taps was estimated at 207 million gallons, against 178 million gallons in 1113. There were 1,830 meters in service and 459 hydrants at the end of 1114, against 1,539 and 449 respectively in 1113. The standard of purity of water distributed is similar to that adopted by the Metropolitan Water Board, London, for its supply. Samples of the filterate and water from the street fountains were being collected daily and examined in the Laboratory. The working expenses of the Willingdon Water Works during the year amounted to Rs. 81,602; and the gross receipts amounted to Rs. 1,18,450.

The laying of sewers continued during the year, the total length of sewers laid being 20 miles, against 17½ miles in 1113. The man holes, lamp holes and other masonry works in the above length of sewers, as well as the laying of pumping mains, were completed. House connections in the sewers already laid, construction of ventilators and air inlets in the portions where sewers had been laid and the construction and formation of drainage roads were also carried out. The expenditure incurred on the Trivandrum Drainage Scheme during the year amounted to Rs. 2·87 lakhs, the total outlay till the end of the year being Rs. 13·77 lakhs.

Trivandrum Drainage Scheme.

All the works connected with the water supply schemes in Nagercoil, Alleppey and Shencotta made steady progress during the year. In Alleppey, 44 miles of mains, out of a total of 48 miles required, were laid; and the 300 fountain posts required for the town distribution system were manufactured. The capital expenditure incurred during the year on the Nagercoil scheme amounted to Rs. 4 lakhs and that incurred on the Shencotta and Alleppey schemes came up to Rs. ·80 lakh and Rs. 1·69 lakhs respectively.

Mofussil Water Works.

Schemes for the supply of water to Kuttanad, Shertallai and Kumarakam were under investigation.

Electrical Department.

Electrical Engineer. *Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon, B. A., B. Sc. (Hons.), (London), A. G. G. I. and D. I. C. A. M. I. Mech. E., A. M. I. E. (Ind.)*

The Electrical Department was separated from the Public Works Department in 1108 and placed under the direct control of Government, under the Electrical Engineer. During the year under review, there was an all-round expansion of the various activities of the department.

General.

The distribution system was extended during the year by three miles of overhead lines, thereby bringing the total length of the distribution lines to 63 miles. 201 private consumers and 24 Government institutions were newly connected and 148 services were disconnected during the year. The total number of services at the end of the year was 2,377, as against 2,152 at the end of 1113. The overhead lines along the Kaudiar Avenue road was changed over to the underground system. The average cost of generation during the year worked out to 0·642 annas a unit, against 0·653 annas in 1113.

The Trivandrum Electric Supply.

During the year 1114, there was a phenomenal increase in the demand for power and, to meet this demand, the plant capacity of the station was increased by the installation of a 150 K'' M. A. N. set. The generation during the year from this station was 1,751,203 units. The maximum peak load which was 295 K. W. at the beginning of the year rose up to 425 K. W. towards the close of the year. The L. T. lines were extended by 4·75 miles during the year, thus making a total of 42·75 miles of L. T. lines at the end of the year. 126 private consumers and 19 Government institutions were newly connected, thereby bringing the total number of consumers to 763 at the close of the year.

The Quilon Electric Supply.

The Trivandrum Telephone Exchange, which was a unit of the Trivandrum Electric supply, was tranferred to the control of a Telephone Engineer in 1113. A new 100 line magneto exchange switch board was installed in 1114; and four switch boards were working simultaneously. The number of magneto connections increased from 256 in 1113 to 262; and the number of automatic connections increased from 29 to 41.

The Trivandrum Telephone Exchange.

The total outlay on the above three concerns *viz.*, the Trivandrum Electric supply, the Quilon Electric supply, and the Trivandrum Telephone Exchange, was Rs. 15,74,055 till the end of the year 1114. The total receipts from these undertakings during the year was Rs. 4,33,397. The working expenses amounted to Rs. 2,13,012; and the net income amounted to Rs. 2,20,385. Out of this, a sum of Rs. 85,600 was appropriated towards depreciation and Rs. 75,240 towards

Receipts and Expenditure.

interest on the capital invested. The balance of Rs. 59,545 was credited to the Electrical Reserve fund which amounted to Rs. 1,97,776 at the end of the year.

The Kottayam Electric supply.

The capital investment on this concern owned by a private person was Rs. 1,78,273 at the end of 1114, and the gross receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 39,472, while the working expenses amounted to Rs. 22,813 excluding the sum of Rs. 8,900 set apart for depreciation. The net revenue was Rs. 7,758. The total number of consumers at the end of the year was 662, the number given connection during the year being 120. Four hundred and eighty one street lights were maintained, and the length of the supply mains was 20 miles at the end of the year.

The Kalamassery Electric Supply.

The power house at Kalamassery near Alwaye intended to supply power to the Sri Chitra Mills till the Pallivasal hydro-electric power becomes available. As there was a large amount of reserve power after supply to the mills and the Alwaye town, the supply of power was extended to Parur, Kothamangalam and Pallam during the year. Starting with a generation of 8,590 units in the beginning of the year, there was a steady development and, in the last month of the year, there was a generation of 37,313 units. The total generation for the year was 184,309, against 71,905 units in 1113.

The Nagercoil Electric Supply.

The Nagercoil Electric Supply is owned by a private individual. The number of consumers connected up till the end of 1114 was 493, the number of consumers connected up during the year being 80. The number of street lights maintained was 480; and the total number of supply mains till the end of 1114 was 25 miles. The capital investment on the scheme till the end of 1114 was Rs. 2·27 lakhs. The gross receipts in 1114 amounted to Rs. 37,957 and the working expenses to Rs. 22,215.

The Munnar Electric Supply.

The electric works at Munnar are owned by Messrs. K. D. H. P. company Ltd. The total number of units generated during the year was 4,277,270.

The Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Project.

The question of harnessing the hydro-electric possibilities of the State had been engaging the attention of Government in recent years and, in 1932, an investigation of the Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Scheme was made. Since the result of the investigation was encouraging, the work in connection with the scheme was started. The Pallivasal project which is now approaching completion is one of the most economical water power resources in the State. This scheme utilises the falls in the Mudrapuzha river, which is a tributary of the Periyar, by diverting the water at Munnar through a tunnel about 2 miles in length and making available a head of 1,990 feet. The present development provides for the generation of 9,000 K. W. But the tunnel is designed for the ultimate development of 30,000 K. W.

The erection of the generators, transformers and switch gear was almost completed during the year. Power is to be generated at 11,000 volts and stepped up to 66 K. V. by means of three 5,000 K. V. A. transformers. 135 miles of 66 K. V. double circuit lines, connecting the Pallivasal power house with Kothamangalam, Alwaye, Pallom, Mavelikara and Kundara, have been completed. Single circuit line to the extent of 26½ miles, connecting Mavelikara with Alleppey, has also been constructed. The 66 K. V. sub-stations at Kothamangalam, Alwaye, Pallom, Mavelikara and Kundara, the 33 K. V. sub-station at Alleppey, and all the 11 K. V. sub-stations have been completed and made ready for commissioning. These sub-stations as well as the transmission lines have all been energised at 11 K. V. from the thermal stations at Quilon and Kalamassery; and power has been supplied to Alleppey, Neendakara, Chavara, Kayencolam, Mavelikara, Changanacherri, Thiruvella, Alwaye and Parur. The L. T. distribution systems at Kundara, Alleppey, Mavelikara, Kayencolam, Tiruvella, Changanacherri, Alwaye, Parur and Devicolam have been completed during the year. The possibility of utilising electric power for lift irrigation and for drainage of the paddy lands in north and central Travancore was investigated; and it was decided to carry out actual demonstrations in Parur and Kuttanad in 1115.

The total expenditure on the civil and electrical works of the scheme during the year was Rs. 13·93 lakhs; and the total outlay till the end of the year was Rs. 121·19 lakhs.

The All-Travancore Telephone Scheme. The Trunk Telephone Scheme made good progress during the year. The trunk lines in the following sections were completed :—

(1) Trivandrum to Quilon ;
(2) Trivandrum to Nagercoil and Cape ; and
(3) Quilon to Kundara.

The construction works in the following sections were taken up and were in progress during the year :—

(1) Mavelikara to Kundara.
(2) Mavelikara to Alleppey.
(3) Mavelikara to Pallom.
(4) Pallom to Kottayam.

A thirty-four mile long distance under ground coil-loaded telephone cable between Neriamangalam and Chithirapuram was laid, and the new telephone exchanges at Quilon and Nagercoil were completed during the year. A public call office was opened at Quilon. The amount spent on the scheme during the year was Rs. 2·65 lakhs, bringing the total investment to Rs. 4·13 lakhs.

Radio Broadcasting Scheme. The scheme provides for a 5 K. W. medium-wave station in Trivandrum. Tenders were invited for the supply of equipments; and a suitable site was selected at Kulathur about 6 miles away from Trivandrum to locate the transmitting station. The studio building proposed to be constructed within the University premises will provide for five studios in all—a talk studio, a transcription studio, a drama studio and a studio each for Indian music and English music. The scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 2·8 lakhs.

CHAPTER X.

COMMERCE.

Trade.

Value of Trade.

The total value of trade rose from Bh. Rs. 7·54 crores in 1113 to Bh. Rs. 7·63 crores in 1114 and that of exports from Bh. Rs 9·43 crores to Bh Rs. 9·58 crores. The balance of trade in favour of the State rose from Rs. 1·89 crores in 1113 to Rs. 1·95 crores in 1114.

Carriage of Trade.

Of the import trade, 19·77 per cent. was carried on by sea, 57·72 per cent. by backwater, 8·97 per cent. by land and 13·54 per cent. by railway. Of the export trade 25·19 per cent. was carried on by sea, 39·21 per cent. by backwater, 18·77 per cent. by land and 16·83 per cent. by railway.

Imports.

There was a rise in the value of cashewnuts, textiles and tobacco imported, while the value of the remaining chief articles imported *viz.*, kerosine, machinery, metals and ores, hardware, petrol, provisions, spices, paddy and rice showed a fall. The subjoined statement shows the quantity and value of rice and paddy imported during the years 1113 and 1114 :–

Particulars.	Quantity.		Value	
	1113	1114	1113	1114
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Bh. Rs.	Bh. Rs.
Rice .	59,66,193	54,88,725	2,40,79,308	2,27,18,345
Paddy .	5,68,763	4,97,378	16,77,769	16,68,860
Total .	65,34,956	59,86,103	2,57,57,077	2,43,87,205

There was an improvement in the value of the export trade in the produce of the cocoanut tree. Taking each article separately there was an increase both in the quantity and value of cocoanuts, cocoanut oil, *punnac* and coir and manufactures thereof. Though the quantity of copra showed an increase, the value fetched was less than that in the previous year. As regards the other articles of export, there was remarkable improvement both in the quantity and value of sugar and cane sugar unrefined. The quantity and value of arecanuts, fish, pepper, raw rubber, turmeric and ilmenite also showed a rise. Though there was an increase in the quantity of ginger and of tea exported, their value showed a fall. There was a decrease in the quantity of jaggery and cashew kernals exported but the value fetched was higher than that in the previous year. The value of hides exported showed a fall while that of timber recorded a rise. There was a fall both in the quantity and value of cardamoms, coffee, lemongrass oil, monazite and zircon and tamarind exported.

Exports.

Of the import trade, 41·1 per cent. was with Burma, 31·2 per cent. with British India, 11·0 per cent. with the United Kingdom, 2·7 per cent. with Japan and the remaining 14·0 per cent. with other countries.

Direction of Trade.

Of the export trade 35·3 per cent. was with British India, 28·5 per cent. with Cochin, 23·1 per cent. with the United Kingdom, 6·7 per cent. with the United States of America and the remaining 6·4 per cent. with other countries.

Ports.

Principal Port Officer. — *Mr. K. N. Govindan, B. A., (Ag. from 1-1-1114 to 11-2-1114 and additional charge from 12-2-1114 to 30-9-1114).*

Mr. S. Aiyappan Pillai B. A., B. L., (in independent charge from 30-9-1114 till the end of the year).

The Marine Department attends mainly to the working of the following Acts, *viz.*,

General.

(i) The Native Passenger Ships Act, I of 1050;
(ii) The Ports Act, I of 1094;
(iii) The Registration of Ships Act, II of 1095;
(iv) The Public Canals and Ferries Act, VI of 1096, so far as testing the fitness of steam and motor vessels plying in inland water-ways is concerned; and
(v) The Wrecks Act, I of 1108.

In addition, the department controls shipping operations within port limits, attends to the maintenance of light houses at the ports and at Aryad and Pallom on the backwater and advises Government on marine matters generally.

Weather.

The weather was favourable for shipping operations throughout the year. For a few days during the South-West Monsoon, the weather was a little disturbed. Storm warning telegrams were received from Poona on 81 days in all, constituting 5 different occasions.

Shipping.

In the year under review, 620 steamers and 197 sailing vessels of a total of 17,62,306 tons in all called at all the ports together as against 601 steamers and 247 other vessels of an aggregate tonnage of 17,05,292 which called during the year 1113 M. E. There was an increase of 19 steamers and 57,014 tons from last year. The following statement indicates the progress of shipping operations at the different ports during the last two years :—

Name of Port.	No. of steamers that called.		No. of country craft that called.		Total tonnage.	
	1113	1114	1113	1114	1113	1.14
Alleppey	357	368	85	29	8,92,165	9 58,027
Quilon	55	77	46	97	1,81,968	2,42,760
Trivandrum	115	107	17	18	3,70,501	6,71,311
Colachel	54	45	1	1	1,81,490	1,46,480
Koilthottam and Neendakara	20	23	..	..	68,267	73,358
Munambom	..	..	60	7	6,954	722
Manakudy	..	..	32	29	3,259	2,784
Kovalam	..	..	6	2	638	239
Rajakkamangalom	..	..	..	14	..	1,406
Total	601	620	247	197	17,05.292	17,62,306.

At Koilthottam steamers called for loading mineral sands. The operations at Munambom and Kovalam were confined to the landing and shipment of salt.

Situation of Ports.

The ports of Travancore are favourably situated in regard to all trade routes between Australia and the far East on the one hand and Europe and America on the other. There are deep water anchorages fairly close inshore at all the important ports, especially at Trivandrum and Colachel and consequently no piloting to mooring is necessary.

Alleppey Port.

Alleppey is the chief sea port of the State. The sand accretions alongside the pier which was usual in recent years did not occur this year. The sand which was already accreted near the pier was removed by the Grab Dredger working at the port. The mud bank which served to afford smooth roads for steamers even during monsoons did not fully or distinctly re-form in position at or near the port and therefore shipping operations were rendered difficult at times owing to rough seas.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The receipts including port dues and miscellaneous collections amounted to Rs. 51,301 as against Rs. 50,947 in 1113, the expenditure being Rs. 34,266 against Rs. 32,174 in 1113.

The Cochin Harbour.

In July 1925 a Four-Party Agreement was entered into between the Government of India, the Government of Madras and the Governments of Travancore and Cochin, for the development of the Cochin Harbour. The scheme was divided into four stages. The first stage included works connected with the investigation and protection of the foreshore. The second stage related to the work done in connection with the experiment in cutting the bar. The third stage included all works subsequent to the first and second stages extending to the point at which it became the regular practice for ocean-going steamers to enter the bar and discharge at moorings inside the backwater; and the fourth stage includes all other works that may be found necessary for the conversion of the harbour into a really important port. The expenditure relating to the first stage was, in the first instance, met by the

Government of Madras. The second stage was completed at a cost of about Rs. 8·96 lakhs towards which the Government of Madras and the Cochin and Travancore States each contributed Rs. 3 lakhs. The third stage was financed by the harbour authorities and, for the prosecution of the fourth stage works, Travancore agreed to contribute a third share of the expenditure.

The Government of India having declared that prior to April 1931 it became the regular practice for ocean-going steamers to enter the bar and discharge at moorings inside the backwater, the sharing of the customs revenue collected at the port was given effect to from the first of April 1931. At a conference held in November 1934 between the representatives of the Government of India and the Governments of Madras, Cochin and Travancore, the following terms regarding the distribution of customs revenue realised at the port were provisionally accepted :—

(*a*) in respect of any year in which the net customs revenue does not exceed Rs. 49½ lakhs, the Governments of Cochin and Travancore and the Government of India will each receive one-third share ;

(*b*) in respect of any year in which the net customs revenue exceeds Rs. 49½ lakhs but does not exceed Rs. 63 lakhs, the Travancore Government will receive Rs. 16½ lakhs, the Cochin Government will receive one-third of the net customs revenue, and the Government of India will receive the remainder ;

(*c*) in respect of any year in which the net customs revenue exceeds Rs. 63 lakhs, the Travancore Government will receive Rs. 16½ lakhs plus six per cent. of the excess over Rs. 63 lakhs, the Cochin Government will receive Rs. 21 lakhs plus ten per cent. of the excess over Rs. 63 lakhs, and the Government of India will receive the remainder.

In November 1935, another conference of all the four parties was convened at new Delhi. Among the agreements reached at that conference was that the Cochin Government should purchase the rights of the Madras Government in the harbour by accepting the liability to contribute two-thirds share of the expenditure required for the fourth stage works, the remaining one-third being contributed by Travancore. It was also agreed that the Government of India should declare

the port as a major port from the date of the commencement of the fourth stage works and that the basis of the harbour administration in future should be a Port Trust Act passed by the Central Indian Legislature and an identical Act *mutatis mutandis* passed by the Government of Cochin. The Port Trust is to consist of eleven members in which Travancore is to have equal representation with the Government of Cochin and the Government of India. As regards the sharing of the customs revenue, the formula put forward at the conference in November 1934 was accepted by all the parties.

The Cochin Port Act passed by the Central Indian Legislature came into force from the 1st August 1936 and with effect from that date the Government of India declared Cochin as a major port and assumed control of the port from the Government of Madras. Pending the constitution of the Port Trust provided by the Act, an Administration was set up for the Port with Mr. R. C. Bristow as Administrative Officer and Harbour-Engineer-in-Chief and an Advisory Committee in the place of the original Port Conservancy Board; and in this Advisory Committee Travancore was represented by Mr. G. B. E. Truscott, Chief Engineer, and Mr. K. C. Karunakaran of the Travancore Chamber of Commerce.

Sanction to the execution of the first instalment of the capital works relating to the fourth stage of the harbour development was given in August 1936, and the works were in progress during the year under review. Travancore advanced to the Harbour Authority during the year a sum of Rs. 7,00,000 in addition to the sum of Rs. 21,00,000 already paid in previous years, as loan in part-payment of the one-third share promised for the fourth stage works. The contribution of one-third of the cost of purchasing a dredging plant for the harbour, agreed to by this Government as a loan to the Harbour Authority on terms different from those governing the fourth stage advance has been paid up in full; and its repayment is being made in instalments, together with the interest due.

CHAPTER XI.

MEDICAL RELIEF, PUBLIC HEALTH AND VITAL STATISTICS.

Medical Department.

Surgeon-General. *Dr. K. P. Raman Pillai, M. B. B. S. (Madras), L. R. C. P. (London), M. R. C. S. (Eng.), F. R. C. M. (Edin.) (Ag. from 1-1-1114 to 16-4-1114).*

Vaidyasastra Kusala Mrs. M. Poonen Lukose, B. A. (Madras), M. B. B. S. (London), L. M. (Rotunda) (for the rest of the year).

System of Medical Aid.

Free medical aid and free supply of medicines are made available to the public in all the medical institutions maintained by the Government. Some of those private medical institutions in the State which are useful to the public are given grants-in-aid by Government. The policy of the Government has been to see that proper medical aid is placed within easy reach of all classes of people in the State.

Medical Institutions.

The number of Government medical institutions was the same as in last year, *viz.*, 87—32 hospitals and 55 dispensaries, including 3 bi-weekly and one evening dispensaries. In addition to the above, there were 12 malaria dispensaries during the year. The number of grant-in-aid dispensaries was 21 as in the previous year.

Medical Officers.

The permanent professional staff of the Medical Department during the year under report consisted of one Surgeon-General, 5 Surgeons, 17 Deputy Surgeons, 45 Assistant Surgeons, 86 Sub-Assistant Surgeons and 7 temporary Sub-Assistant Surgeons. In accordance with the scheme for the entertainment of honorary House Surgeons and House Physicians, there were 14 honorary House Surgeons, and of these the medical graduates numbering 11 were given an honorarium of Rs. 30 each per mensem and the 3 diploma holders were given Rs. 20 each

per mensem. Among the professional staff, 21 were women of whom 4 held European qualifications, 16 had Indian University Degrees or Diplomas and one possessed an American degree. Of the male medical officers, 19 held European qualifications and the rest possessed Indian University degrees or diplomas.

Medical Relief. The following statement shows the extent of relief afforded by the department during 1113 and 1114. The figures include those of the grant-in-aid institutions also.

Particulars.	1113	1114
Number of in-patients treated	87,101	90,479
Number of out-patients	2,609,770	2,649,798
Daily average of in and out-patients	20,136·45	20,82[illegible]·87
Number of beds available	3,740	3,846
Percentage of mortality	[illegible]·01	2·98
Number of surgical operations	98,384	101,155
Post-mortem Examinations—		
Medico-legal	658	589
Pathological	42	52

As in the previous year, the Fort Hospital, Trivandrum, ranked foremost in the matter of out-patient attendance, the number being 103,907. The General Hospital at Trivandrum and the District Hospital, Alleppey, followed next in order with an out-patient attendance of 90,284 and 90,032 respectively. For in-patient attendance the General Hospital, Trivandrum, stood foremost followed by the Women and Children's Hospital, Trivandrum, with 17,480 and 12,351 patients respectively.

Child Welfare. Nintynine midwives were at work during the year and they attended 14,619 cases of labour showing an average of 147·66 cases per midwife as against 148·39 in the previous year.

Nursing staff. Efficient nursing in the State hospitals was first introduced in 1082 (1906 A. D.) by the employment of 8 European Roman Catholic Sisters of the Holy Cross. Their number was gradually raised and in the year under report there were 44 European nursing sisters, 6 Indian nursing sisters, 70 trained nurses and 29 sick nurses.

Medical Education.

Under the arrangement with the Madras Government for the reservation of seats for Travancore students in the Madras Medical College, two students were selected and sent by the Government for the M. B. B. S. course beginning in July 1939. The capitation grant of Rs. 1,000 per annum to the Missionary Medical School for Women at Velloore was continued. The Midwifery class at Quilon was also continued during the year.

General Hospital, Trivandrum.

The number of in-patients treated in the General Hospital, Trivandrum, rose from 16,448 in 1113 to 17,480 and that of the out-patients from 84,254 to 90,284. The number of surgical operations performed in the hospital also rose from 8,842 to 10,913 of which 2,458 were major operations and 8,455 minor. The percentage of mortality among operated cases was 0·7 per cent. The number of patients examined and treated in the X-ray and Electro-Therapeutic Section of the hospital rose from 3,179 to 3,679 of whom 740 were treated on payment. The Dental Section of the hospital treated 9,031 patients ; the Ear, Nose and Throat Section treated 3,324 patients and in the Clinical Laboratory 53,798 persons were examined. Radium treatment was started in the hospital during the year.

Women and Children's Hospital, Trivandrum.

In the Women and Children's Hospital, Trivandrum, the number of in-patients and out-patients rose from 11,674 and 67,588 in 1113 to 12,351 and 71,410 respectively in 1114. Obstetric and gynaecological cases treated in the hospital during the year numbered 3,240 and 15,401 respectively in 1114. The number of surgical operations performed in the hospital was 7,698.

Ophthalmic Hospital, Trivandrum.

The number of in-patients and out-patients treated in the hospital increased from 2,608 and 15,486 in 1113 to 2,768 and 20,395 respectively. Surgical operations performed in the hospital numbered 1,376 against 1,354 in 1113.

Hospital for Mental Diseases, Trivandrum.

The number of patients under treatment in the hospital for mental diseases was 244, comprising 183 males and 61 females. Of these, 18 patients were discharged as cured, improved etc., 24 died and 201 patients were under treatment at the close of the year.

Leper Colony, Noornad.

The number of patients admitted during the year including those remaining at the beginning of the year was 1,024. In the case of 40 patients the symptoms disappeared, 410 patients improved, 102 were otherwise discharged, 65 died and 407 patients remained under treatment at the close of the year.

Miscellaneous.

Rai Sahib Dr. Issac Santra, the propaganda officer of the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association, made a Leprosy re-survey of the State. The foundation stone of a Tuberculosis Hospital at Nagercoil was laid by Her Excellency Lady Linlithgow and a small clinic was started in the General Hospital, Trivandrum for the treatment of tuberculosis patients.

Expenditure.

The expenditure of the department during the year was Rs. 9,99,327 against Rs. 11,16,574 in the previous year. The ratio of expenditure to the number treated was as. 5 and pies 9 against as. 7 and pies 3 in the previous year.

Ayurveda Department.

Honorary Director. *Mr. C. N. Narayanan Moose.*

General.

An Ayurveda *Patasala* (school) was first established in 1065 M. E. (1889 A. D.) and a system of grant-in-aid to qualified vaidyans was also sanctioned. In 1093 M. E. (1917-1918 A. D.) the present Ayurveda Department was constituted; the curricula of studies in Ayurveda schools were revised on a scientific basis to suit modern requirements and an Ayurveda Hospital and Dispensary was established at Trivandrum. The Ayurveda Patasala was subsequently raised to the status of a college.

Ayurveda Hospitals and Dispensaries.

Besides the Government Ayurveda Hospital and Dispensary at Trivandrum there were three grant-in-aid Ayurveda hospitals as in the previous year. The number of *vaidyasalas* aided by Government rose from 156 in 1113 to 162 in 1114. These *vaidyasalas* were in four grades; 4 in the first grade on a grant of Rs. 30 per mensem. 10 in the second grade on Rs. 25 per mensem, 34 in the third grade on Rs. 20 per mensem and 114 in the fourth grade on Rs. 15 per mensem. Of these institutions, 20 were *Visha-vaidyasalas*, one was for both poison and eye treatment, 2 for eye treatment, 4 for *marma chikilsa*, 3 for treatment of women and children and the rest including 5 *siddha* and *unani vaidyasalas* were for the treatment of general diseases. As in last year three temporary *vaidyasalas* were opened in connection with the *Makaravilakku* festival at Sabarimala and the *Ashtami* festival at Vaikom. Under the scheme for the award of recognition to expert and popular *vaidyans*, there were 137 *vaidyasalas* functioning at the close of the year as against 120 in the previous year.

Relief.

The total number of patients treated in the Government Ayurveda Hospital as well as in the aided and recognised Ayurvedic institutions together was 1,031,917, distributed as follows:—

Class of Institution.		1113	1114
Government Ayurveda Hospital	In-patients	322	398
	Out-patients	92,213	92,863
Grant-in-aid hospitals		46,793	42,508
Do. *vaidyasalas*		503,702	523,291
Temporary do.		2,989	4,361
Recognised do.		358,416	368,496
	Total	1,004,435	1,031,917

Of the 398 in-patients in the Government Ayurveda Hospital, 348 were cured, 3 died, 25 were discharged and the rest were undergoing treatment when the year closed.

The average daily cost of dieting a patient in the institution was chs. 4 and cash 9. There was an increase of 650 in the out-patient attendance of the hospital from that of the previous year, the average daily attendance including repetitions being 969. In the *marma chikilsa* ward attached to the hospital 4,032 patients were treated for fractures, dislocation, etc.

The Ayurveda College.

The Ayurveda College prepares students for the *Vaidya Sastri* and *Vaidya Kalanidhi* examinations, the entire course extending to five years, three years for the former, which forms the high school course and two years more for the latter, which forms the college course. A class for imparting instruction in poison cases and for coaching up candidates for the *Visha Vaidya Visarada* examination was newly started during the year. Besides the above three examinations, the department also conducts the *Ayurveda Acharya* examination, the highest test in proficiency for which the diploma is awarded on the merits of a thesis on an approved subject on Ayurveda. The strength of the college rose from 164 in 1113 to 183 in 1114 and of these students, 16 were women. Fees were previously realised from the students of the fourth and fifth year classes only at the rate of Rs. 30 each per year but during the year fees were introduced in all the classes. There were 40 scholarships amounting to Rs. 1,376 available for the students. Facilities were afforded as usual to the students of the college classes for practical training in the Government Ayurveda Hospital and Pharmacy. An Assistant Surgeon from the General Hospital gave lectures in Modern Anatomy and Physiology and students were given training in the dissection of dead bodies and in modern methods of diagnosis of diseases.

Ayurveda High Schools.

Besides the Government High School attached to the Ayurveda College, there were five private aided high schools against 4 in the previous year. During the year permission was accorded to conduct two more high schools. All the five aided schools were in receipt of a grant of Rs. 30 each per mensem. The total number of students in all these schools was 339.

The Pharmacy prepares under proper supervision and supplies the medicines required for the Government Ayurveda Hospital and also for sale. The Ayurveda Botanical garden at Pulayanarkotta was sanctioned to be shifted to Mukkunni Hills where 30 acres of land have been set apart for a garden.

Ayurveda Pharmacy and the Botanical Garden.

The receipts of the department amounted to Rs. 5,895 and the expenditure to Rs. 80,372. The net expenditure on the department during the year was Rs. 74,477 against Rs. 70,148 in the previous year.

Receipts and Expenditure.

Public Health Department.

Honorary Adviser, Public Health. *Dr. W. C. Sweet, M. D., B. Sc., Dr. P. H.*

Director of Public Health. *Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai, M. R. C. S., L. R. C. P., D. P. H, (Lond.), Dr. P. H., F. R. S. (Trop.), M. and H., F. R. I. P. H.*

The need for organising a modern public health department to cope efficiently with the numerous public health problems of the State was engaging the attention of Government for some years. In February 1928 (1103 M. E.) Government requested the Rockefeller Foundation in America to depute one of their representatives to the State to advise the Government in organising a public health department on modern lines. The Foundation very generously acceded to the request and appointed Dr. W. P. Jacocks to take up public health work in Travancore. A working programme drawn up by Dr. Jacocks was sanctioned by Government and put into operation in 1105. This comprised hookworm treatment campaign, public health education, epidemiological and vital statistical investigations, health unit work, medical entomology and plague control measures.

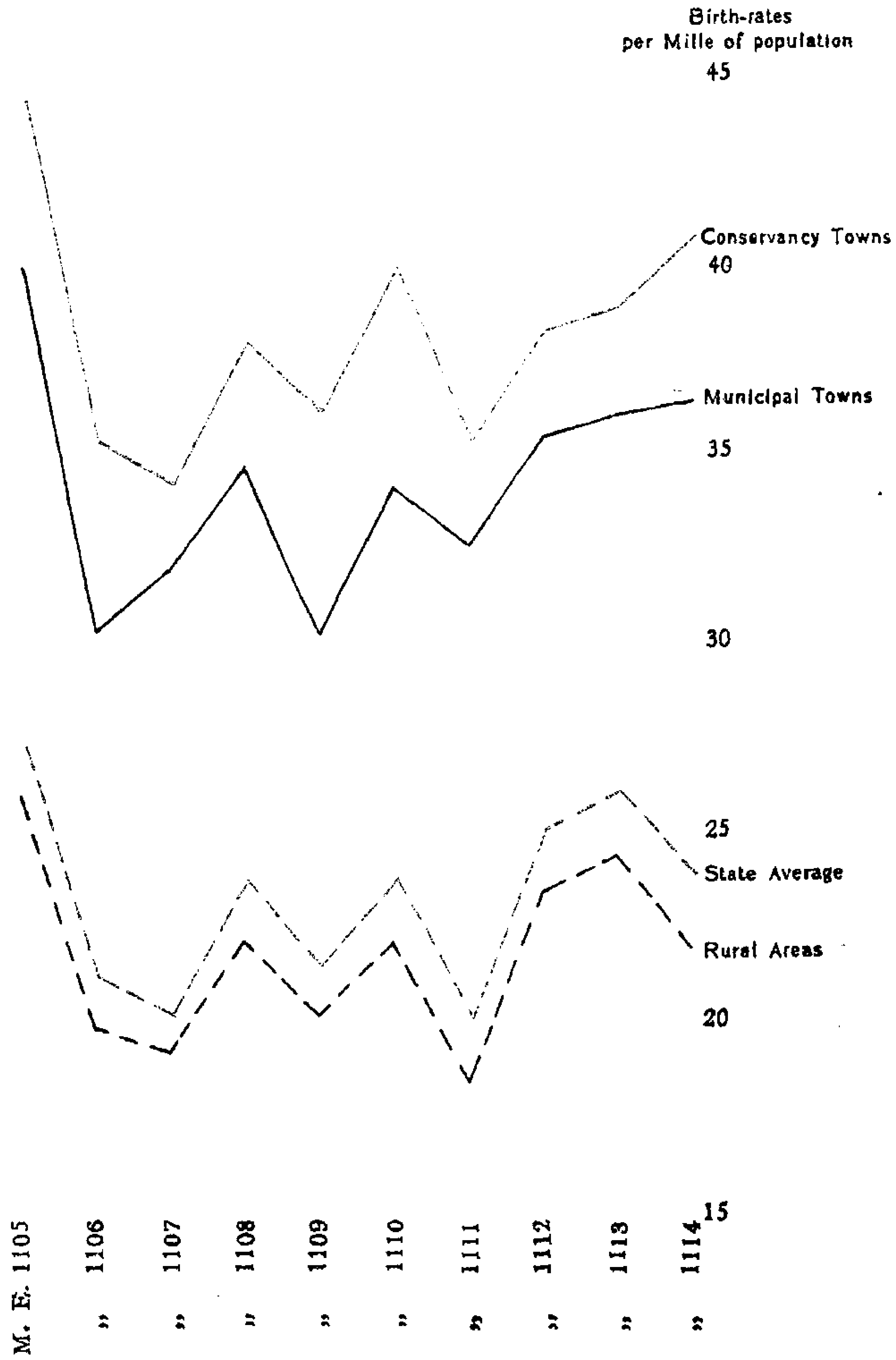
General.

Formation of the Public Health Department.

In 1109 M. E., with a view to co-ordinate the public health activities of the State on an up-to-date and scientific basis, under a single direction, the then existing Sanitary Department was amalgamated with the public health organisation, and a permanent Public Health Department was constituted under the control of a Deputy Director, the post of the Sanitary Commissioner being abolished. Subsequently in 1110, the designation of the head of the department was changed to 'Director of Public Health'. A Public Health Laboratory was also organised in the new department, embracing the sections of the Government Bacteriologist, the Chemical Examiner, the Public Analyst under the Food Adulteration Act, the Hookworm Laboratory and the Vaccine Depot. The Rockefeller Foundation continued to give honorary advice to the State in public health matters. The work of the new department consisted of registration of vital statistics, control of communicable diseases, vaccination, plague control measures, malaria and filariasis surveys and investigations as also mosquito and filariasis control, investigations in the Public Health Laboratory, management of the Health Unit at Neyyattinkara, hook-worm treatment campaign, rural sanitation and public health education. Hookworm treatment campaign was discontinued from the beginning of 1110 and all the remaining items of work were continued thereafter along with a fresh item pertaining to the medical inspection of schools. A Taluk Health Organisation Scheme has been put into operation in south Travancore and Shencottah from the year 1112, for doing intensive public health work, chiefly by taking effective precautionary measures against cholera, which is a menace peculiar to those areas and also by the compilation of correct vital statistics on scientific lines.

During the year the State was divided into two Public Health Districts *viz.*, Northern and Southern, with Kottayam and Neyyattinkara as the respective head-quarters, each District being in charge of a District Health Officer. The District Health Scheme aims at a better co-ordination and an intensive supervision of the various activities of the department. A scheme for maternity and child welfare work was also inaugurated during the year. Ten rural centres were selected, 5 in each of the Health Districts and each centre

Birth-Rates in Travancore during the years 1105 to 1114 M. E.



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was placed in charge of a midwife. Two Lady Sub-Assistant Surgeons supervised the work of the midwives.

Vital Statistics.

There was a decrease in the number of births registered in the State, from 131,285 in 1113 to 119,611 in 1114, the decrease being 11,674. Of the 119,611 births registered, 61,560 were males and 58,051 females, the ratio of male births to one hundred female births being 106·04 against 106·48 in 1113. The birth rate calculated on the census population of 1931 was 23·47 per mille, against 25·76 in 1113. There were 1,404 still births against 1,399 in the previous year, the proportion of still births to 1,000 live births being 11.74. The number of deaths rose from 56,479 in 1113 to 58,830 in 1114 of whom 30,408 were males and 28,422 females, the ratio of male deaths to 100 female deaths being 106.99 against 107.00 in 1113. There was a decrease in the number of infant deaths from 10,164 in 1113 to 9,884 in 1114. But the infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births increased from 77.42 in 1113 to 82.63 in 1114. The increase in population (excess of births over deaths), worked out from vital statistics recorded in 1114, was 60,781, 53.8 per cent. of the increase is contributed by the Hindus, 40·4 by the Christians and 5.4 by the Muslims, the corresponding percentage for the previous year being 55.61, 38.45 and 5.66.

Diseases.

The State was free from epidemics during the year as in 1113. The following statement compares the number of deaths in 1113 and 1114 due to the principal diseases :—

Diseases.	Deaths.	
	1113	1114
Cholera	Nil.	1
Small pox	4	Nil.
Fevers	15,677	15,409
Bowel diseases	4,867	6,152
Diabetes and Carbuncle	1,896	1,844
Respiratory diseases	6,765	6,681
Injuries	983	947
Other causes	26,287	27,796
Total	56,479	58,830

Small-pox and Vaccination.

Only eight attacks of small-pox were reported in 1114 as against 32 attacks and 4 deaths in 1113. This practical eradication of small-pox from the State is a triumphant demonstration of what properly organised public health activities can accomplish. The vaccination campaign which was organised by the Public Health Department was continued in 1114 also. During the year under report 943, 286 vaccinations were performed against 1,145,318 in 1113. The success rates in respect of primary and re-vaccinations in rural areas were found to be 88.6 and 32.0 per cent. respectively. If the cases vaccinated since the commencement of the vaccination campaign are also taken into account it will be seen that almost all persons in the State have been afforded protection.

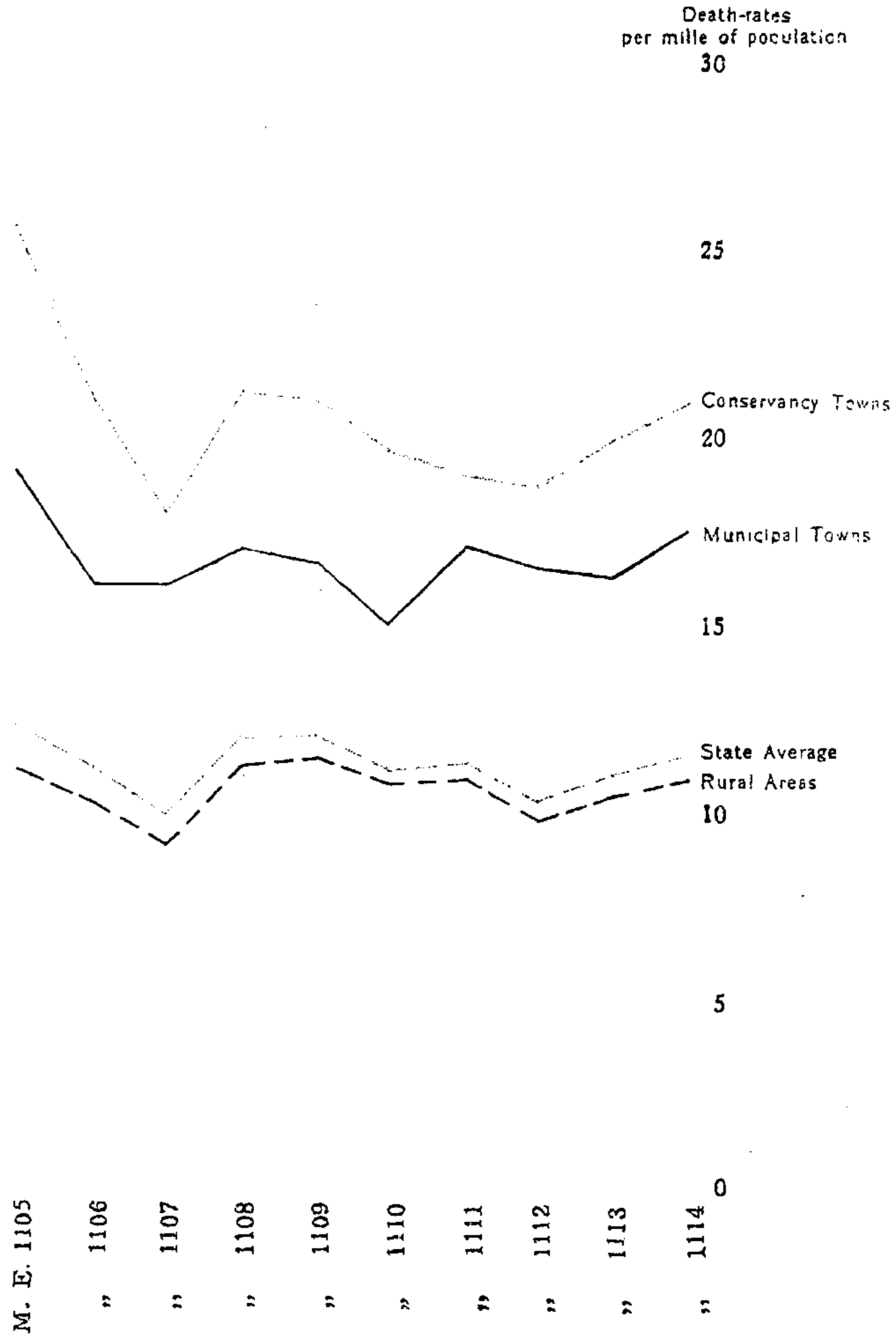
Typhoid and Malaria.

Statistics of typhoid in the State began to be collected for the first time from the beginning of 1113. There were 1,746 attacks and 270 deaths in 1114 against 1,778 attacks and 272 deaths in 1113. Typhoid threatened to assume serious dimensions in the sanitary circles of Chengannur and Kottarakara but the disease was brought under control by effective preventive measures which were adopted by the Department. Malaria is endemic in several parts of the State, particularly in Neyyattinkara and Nedumangad taluks. 281,058 attacks and 52 deaths were reported during the year against 183,392 attacks and 58 deaths in the previous year. Temporary malaria dispensaries in the above taluks were continued and prompt relief measures were undertaken by the department in co-operation with the Medical Department. With a view to organise malaria control work Dr. Kumaran Nair, Medical Officer of Health, Health Unit, Neyyattinkara, was appointed as special officer for the work and he was sent to various parts of India where malaria control works are in progress. Mosquito control work in the municipal towns of Trivandrum, Neyyattinkara, Quilon and Alleppey was continued during the year.

Plague Prevention.

There were no cases of plague either among rats or among human beings in the State during the year under review. But on account of the plague infection at Mattancherry in the Cochin State and in the Cumbum valley, preventive measures were organised in the northern Division of the State. Plague camps were opened in the frontier stations

Death-Rates in Travancore during the years 1105 to 1114 M. E.



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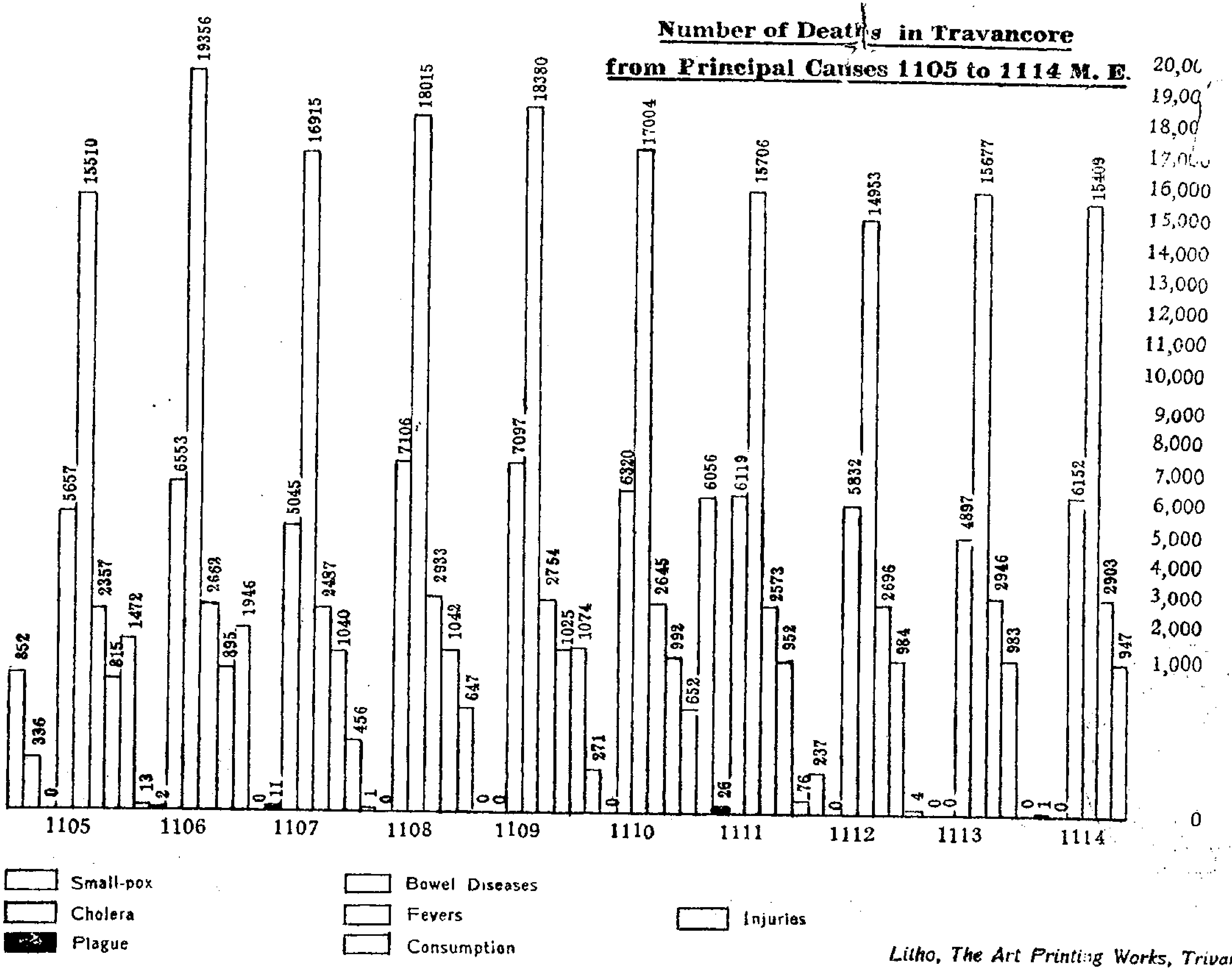


Number of Deaths in Travancore from Principal Causes 1105 to 1114 M. E.

Litho, The Art Printing Works, Trivandrum.

bordering the Cochin State and the plague camps in the Peermade and Devicolam taluks were also continued. All the camps were provided with the necessary equipments for cyanogas fumigation of grain, clothing, etc. The plague preventive measures started at Alleppey since the last plague epidemic there in 1111 were continued during the year. Thorough disinfection of the shops and godowns, cyanogasing of rat holes, destruction of rats by trappings and other allied measures were continued in 1114.

Medical Entomology.

Surveys and other field investigations were carried on systematically on the same lines as in the previous year by the Assistant Surgeons in charge of the Entomological Circles. The work during the year consisted of an anopheline survey of the Shertallai taluk, a malaria survey of the Peermade taluk and of the ghat section of the South Indian Railway, a mosquito survey of Kumarakoil village, field observations and research work regarding malaria in the stations at Perumpazhuthur and Kulasekharam, observations in respect of filarial infection in the field station at Pattanakad, filariasis control work in the Shertallai taluk and mosquito control operations at Alleppey, Quilon and Neyyattinkara.

Public Health Laboratory.

This institution is a valuable auxiliary to the curative and preventive agencies alike, by reason of the various diagnostic tests and other examinations conducted therein and by the copious supply therefrom of different kinds of vaccines required from time to time. The Bacteriological Section, the Research Section, the Small-pox Vaccine Section, the Medical Entomology Section, the Chemical Examiner's Section and the Public Analyst's Section carried on their work on up-to-date scientific basis. In the Bacteriological Section, 1,874 specimens of blood were examined by *Widal's* test for the diagnosis of enteric fever as against 1,568 specimens in 1113. Cultural methods were largely used for the diagnosis and the total number of cultures done was 2,679 as against 2,183 in 1113. Specimens of blood tested for syphilitic infection increased from 1,906 to 2,363. This is the only Laboratory in India where the three tests, *viz.*, Kahn's, Hinton's and Wasserman's tests are being done with each specimen. The following statement compares the different

kinds of vaccines prepared and issued for use during the year and in the year previous :—

	Issued.	
	1113	1114
Typhoid vaccine	18,791 c. cs.	14,434 c. cs.
Cholera vaccine	2,200 c. cs.	5,506 c. cs.
Auto vaccines	558	469
Stock curative vaccines	1,056 c. cs.	1,009 c. cs.
Small-pox vaccine	4,42,141 grains	5,33,442 grains

Sera for diagnostic purposes, which were being purchased from outside, were produced in the Laboratory for the first time in 1114. 2,830 c. cs. of novocain, 4,665 c. cs. of percain, 25,080 c. cs. of quinine bi-hydrochloride and 218 lbs of hydnocreol were prepared and supplied to the various hospitals. Microscopical examinations totalled 816 specimens of blood, urine, stools, sputum, pus, etc. Bio-chemical tests were done in 12 cases and 42 specimens of vaccine lymph were bacteriologically examined. 10 samples of water and 4 of milk were also analysed. 135 specimens were received for pathological examination. 1,519 persons bitten by rabid animals were treated during the year against 1,720 in the previous year. Arrangements for the production of Anti-rabic vaccine were completed by the close of the year. The preparation of the different kinds of media was carried on as in last year. One Sanitary Circle Officer was given training in the control of enteric fever. During the year, 955 specimens of blood, 1,057 of stools and 14 of urine were culturally examined and 1,922 specimens were serologically examined. Blood grouping work was undertaken on behalf of Prof. Ruggles Gates of the University of London, who desired a study of the blood groups of *Kanikkars* and *Pulayas* of this country. In the Medical Entomology Section, the dissection of mosquitoes for malarial and filarial infection and the examination of several blood films and blood smears for malarial and filarial infection were conducted as in the previous year. In the Chemical Examiner's Section 253 cases involving the examination of 1,362 articles were received during the year and of these in 247 cases 1,328 articles were examined. 67 cases of human poisoning, requiring the examination of 306 articles, were

attended to during the year and poison was detected in 55 cases. The public Analyst analysed 43 samples of milk, butter, tea, water, and other food materials.

Health Unit at Neyyattinkara.

The Health Unit at Neyyattinkara is an all-comprehensive rural health organisation covering an area of 40 sq. miles with a population of 73,340 and it serves also as a demonstration and training centre for health workers. The activities of the Health Unit consisted of the following *viz.*, registration of vital statistics, control of communicable diseases, maternity and child welfare work, school medical inspection, rural sanitation and public health education. Small-pox and cholera were completely absent in the Health Unit. Free midwifery was provided and 428 combined pre-natal and infant clinics were held during the year in the 10 clinic centres. 47.52 per cent. of the total number of pregnant women registered during the year received five months' pre-natal care. 919 confinements were attended to by the midwives against 999 in 1113. The number of school children examined in the area was 3,713 against 4,039 in 1113 of whom 1,151 were found with some defect or other and 372 were treated. The per capita expenditure of the unit during the year was 6 chackrams and 6 cash against 8 chackrams and 12 cash in the previous year.

Maternity and Child Welfare Work.

A scheme for maternity and child welfare in rural areas was inaugurated at the beginning of the year. The staff for the purpose consisted of one Lady Sub-Assistant Surgeon and five midwives for each of the two Public Health Districts. The 10 midwives visited 34 ,723 houses. 2,729 pregnant women were registered and 566 deliveries were attended to during the year. The Lady Sub-Assistant Surgeons supervised the work of the midwives and visited a number of villages and towns where they had informal talks on maternity and child welfare work.

School Medical Inspection.

The school medical inspection work, started as an experimental measure in 1111 in 8 select taluks, was continued in 1114 also. The work was done by 8 Sub-Assistant Surgeons under the immediate supervision of two Assistant Surgeons. The work consisted of a thorough examination of the pupils, bringing to the notice of

the parents the defects in the children, treatment in the nearest hospital of the defects observed, inspection of sanitary conditions of the school buildings and premises and imparting health education in schools. The number of schools visited and of students examined in 1114 were 244 and 42573 respectively against 318 and 54,861 during 1113. 17,054 school children were found defective of whom 11,571 received treatment for various ailments and 89 got the benefit of treatment by specialists.

Public Health Education.

The aim of the Health Education section of the department is to enlist the co-operation of the public in the successful conduct of the various activities of the department and to arouse in the people a sense of their responsibility in the matter of preservation and promotion of public health. The total number of lectures and talks on public health subjects given was 1,044 to an estimated audience of 145,000 persons. An intensive lecture campaign was carried out for popularising bored-hole latrines in rural areas. Separate courses of lectures were organised for rural reconstruction workers. 28 public health exhibitions and 10 health leagues were organised during the year. The pamphlets on public health subjects distributed numbered 35,900. Four cinema films on public health subjects were purchased during the year.

Rural Sanitation.

Sinking of new wells, repairs, cleaning and disinfection of existing wells, street lighting and sweeping, sanitation of markets, fairs and of places where festivals were held and adoption of control measures against epidemics formed the principal activities of the conservancy staff in charge of rural sanitation. There were 43 major conservancy and 20 minor conservancy towns in the State in 1114 as against 42 and 21 in 1113. 198 markets were inspected by the Sanitary Circle Officers; and steps were taken to improve their sanitation. 233 bored-hole latrines were constructed against 92 in the previous year.

Receipts and Expenditure.

An expenditure of Rs. 3,36,317 was incurred by the department during the year. The receipts amounted to Rs. 10,134.

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

Director of Public Instruction. — *Mr. A. Gopala Menon, M. A., B. Com.*

Early History of Education in the State.

From very early times, the village school-master, styled the *Asan*, imparted Malayalam and Tamil education of a rudimentary character in the country. He was remunerated by the people themselves. The principal subjects taught were reading, writing, arithmetic and the elements of astronomy necessary for the simple calculations required for domestic rituals and for determining the chief periods of agricultural operations. The old village schools taught boys and girls together. The State's direct activity in the field of education began over a century ago. The duty of the State to impart public instruction was recognised so long ago as 992 M. E. (1817 A. D.) when Her Highness Rani Gouri Parvati Bayi issued a rescript in which Her Highness resolved "that the State should defray the entire cost of the education of its people in order that there might be no backwardness in the spread of enlightenment among them, that by diffusion of education they might become better subjects and public servants and that the reputation of the State might be advanced thereby." The pioneers of English education in the country were Christian Missionaries who opened two English schools, one at Kottayam and the other at Nagercoil in the years 1816-19, and they were given substantial aid from the Government in the shape of grants of land. The first Government English school was started in 1834 at Trivandrum and this institution slowly and steadily developed into the Maharaja's high school and college. An English school for girls was opened at Trivandrum in 1863 by the Zenana Mission and next year was opened the Maharaja's English high school for girls, which has since developed into a college for women. The first Normal School was founded in 1885 and it developed in 1911 into the Training College. A Sanskrit school was opened in 1889 which subsequently developed into the Sanskrit College. The first Director of Public Instruction was appointed in 1084 M. E. (1909 A. D.) and this was followed in

the year next by the promulgation of the Education and Inspection Codes, which marked the inauguration of the existing educational system and policy. Latterly, in 1109, an Advisory Education Board was constituted consisting of twenty nominated non-official members with the Director as its Chairman.

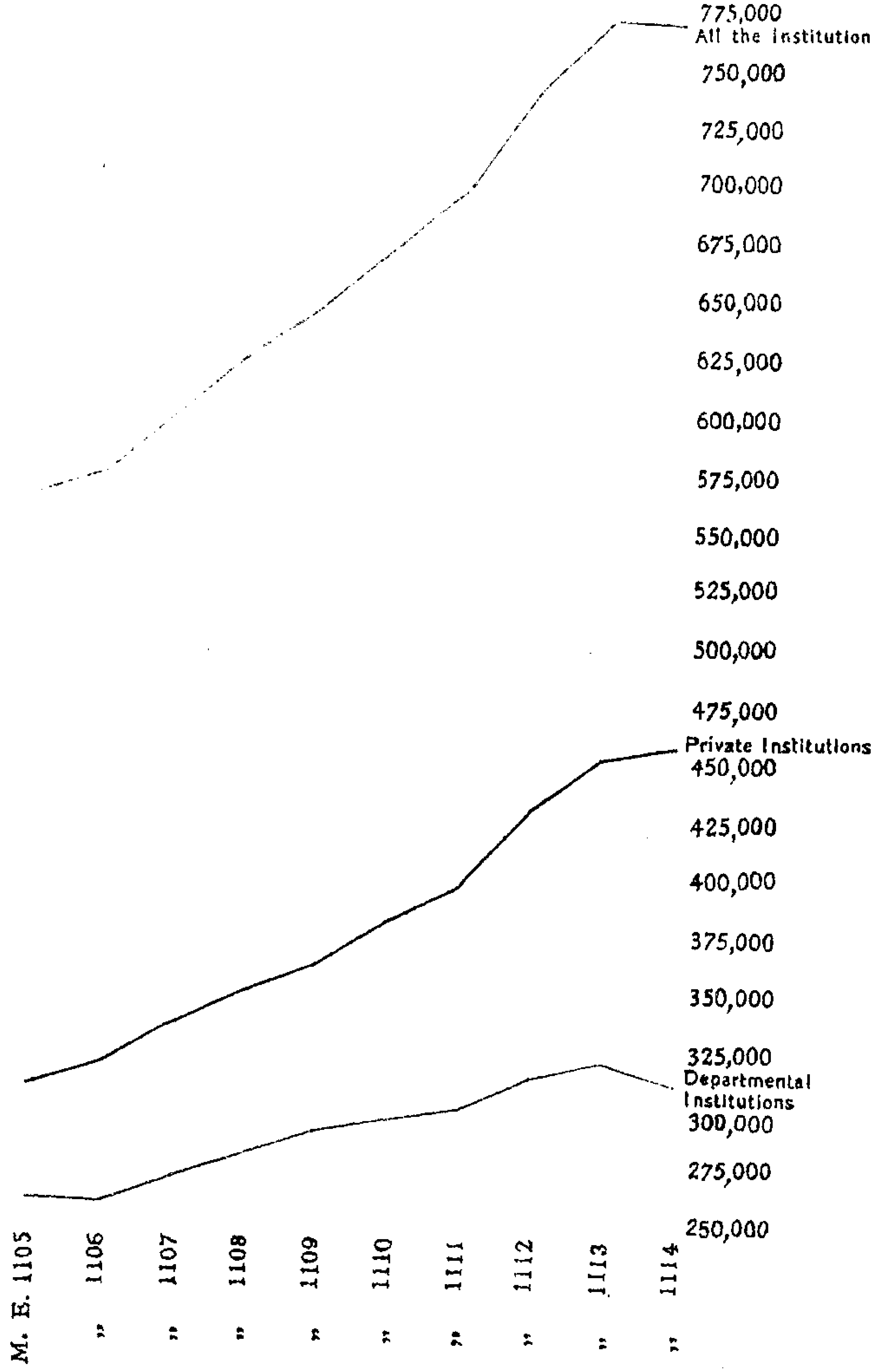
Educational System.

The educational system of Travancore consists of three important branches *viz.*, the Malayalam and Tamil schools, the English schools and the colleges. There are also institutions for the training of teachers and special schools for the teaching of Sanskrit. Malayalam and Tamil schools are of three classes, *viz.*, primary schools, Malayalam and Tamil middle schools and high schools. Primary Schools teach up to class IV, the course of instruction being confined mainly to reading, writing, elementary arithmetic and simple lessons in history and geography. In girls' schools special attention is paid to singing, needle work and domestic economy. Primary education is free throughout the State. Malayalam and Tamil middle schools teach up to class VII and Malayalam and Tamil high schools to class IX. At the end of the primary course, the pupil either pursues Malayalam and Tamil studies in the Malayalam and Tamil middle and high schools or joins the preparatory class in the English middle schools. English middle schools teach up to Form III and English high schools consist of all or any of the Forms IV, V and VI. Facilities are provided for the admission of pupils, with sufficient knowledge of English, from Malayalam and Tamil middle schools, to English middle schools, English being an optional second language in Malayalam and Tamil middle schools. The Malayalam and Tamil school leaving certificate issued to candidates who pass class VII confers eligibility for entertainment in the subordinate ranks of the public service. Similarly, the English school leaving certificate gives eligibility to University courses of study and to the public service. On both the English and Malayalam and Tamil branches, except at the primary standard, there are separate schools for boys and girls with practically the same course of instruction. At the primary stage also, there were separate boys' and girls' schools till 1108 though co-education of boys and girls was freely permitted in such schools. From 1109, all primary schools except those for Muslim girls were declared mixed schools for boys and girls and co-education was

EDUCATION

Number under Instruction

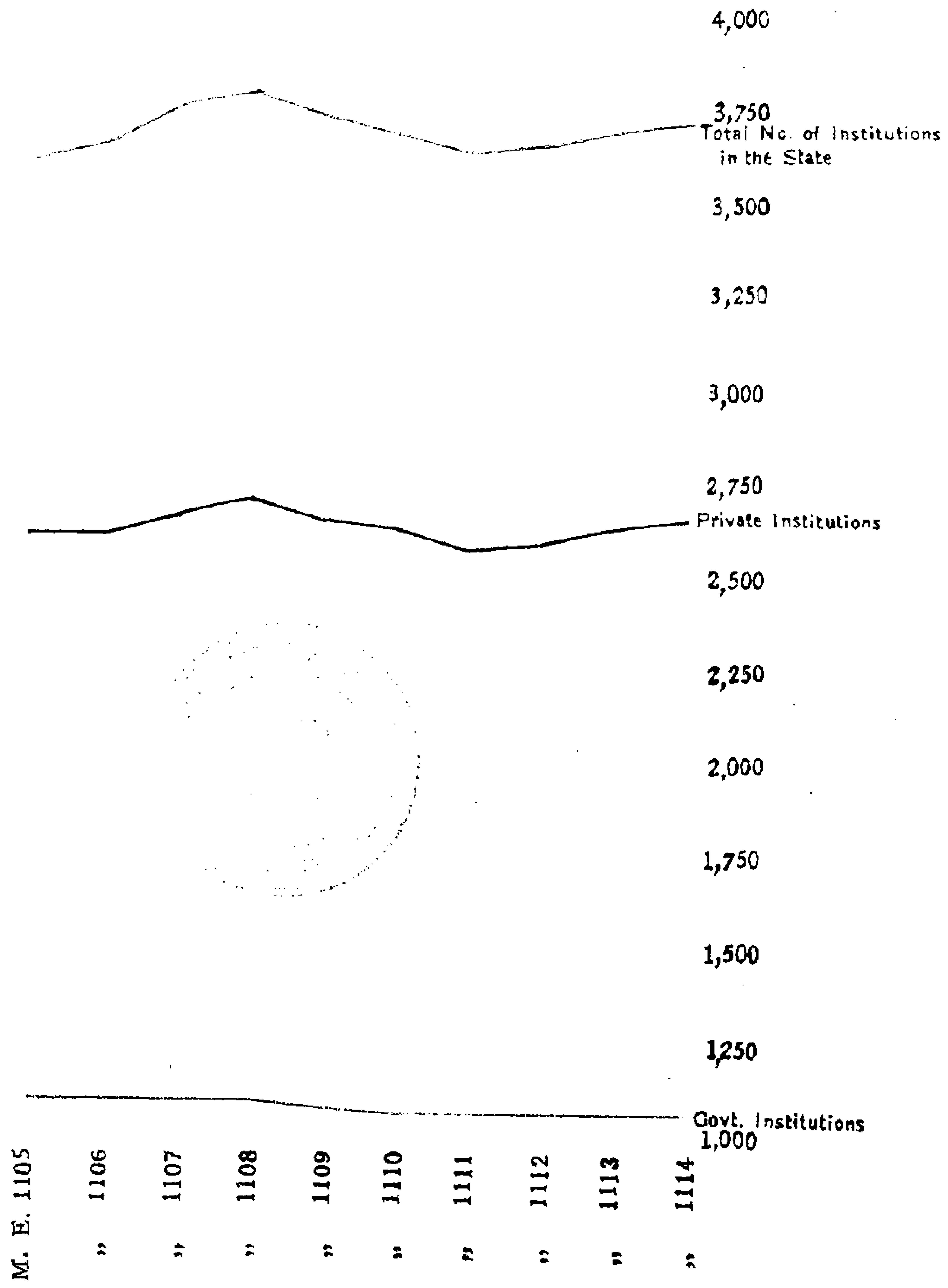
in Departmental and Private Institutions.



Litho. The Art Printing Works, Trivandrum.

EDUCATION

Number of Institutions.



Litho, The Art Printing Works, Trivandrum.

adopted as the departmental policy for all primary schools. In the higher classes and forms too, co-education is allowed in places where separate schools or colleges for girls are not available. Girls were paying only half the rates of fees prescribed for boys in schools and colleges till 1107. From that year full rates began to be realised from girl students in colleges and three-fourths of the rates from girl pupils in schools. English and Malayalam and Tamil schools are supervised by four Divisional Inspectors and thirty-one Assistant Inspectors and Inspectresses. Female education, both English and Malayalam and Tamil except the primary branch, is under the control and guidance of a separate Inspectress of Girls' Schools assisted by an Assistant Inspectress. A notable feature in the domain of education is the part played by private enterprise. There are institutions of all grades, from the lowest primary standard to the highest college course, run by private agencies. These agencies share with the Government the task of public instruction and receive substantial grants-in-aid from Government.

Educational Policy.

In the matter of education, the Government have always pursued a liberal and progressive policy, and the remarkable advance in education made during the past few decades has been due to their sedulous and fostering care. Travancore now stands in the forefront of educated India. As regards primary education, its utmost importance has always been recognised and everything practicable is being done to make it universal. Government are now spending over Rs. 50 lakhs or about one-fifth of the State's revenue on education. Consistent with the educational policy of the State, the education of backward communities has been systematically encouraged by the grant of special concessions and facilities to pupils and students belonging to such communities.

Progress of Education—General Statistics.

There were, during the year, 3,715 recognised institutions of all types and grades with 767,879 pupils under instruction as against 3,682 institutions and 768,289 pupils in 1113, showing an increase of 33 institutions and a decrease of 410 pupils. Of the total number of institutions, 1,048 were departmental and 2,667 private as against 1,043 departmental and 2,639 private in 1113. Of

the total number of pupils, 448,633 were boys and 319,246 girls as against 452,242 boys and 316,047 girls in 1113. The percentage of the total number of pupils under instruction in 1114 to the total population of the State was 15·0 as against 15·1 in 1113 and 14·6 in 1112. The percentage of the male students to the male population was 17·5 in 1114 as against 17·1 in 1113 and 16·5 in 1112 and the percentage of the female students was 12·6 in the year as against 12·2 in 1113 and 12·0 in 1112.

Important Features.

During the year under report, the colleges were taken under the administrative control of the University. More teachers in selected centres were given training to sing *Vancheesamangalam* (Travancore National Anthem), the singing to the correct tune being insisted on in all the schools. As a result of the orders of Government prohibiting the use of the word ' Vernacular ' in official correspondence, Vernacular schools came to be called Malayalam and Tamil schools. The expressions "Vernacular School Leaving Examination," "Vernacular Higher Examination" etc., were also suitably modified. Text books on non-language subjects in Malayalam and Tamil were prepared and published under the auspices of Government and prescribed for all Middle School classes. Tamil Readers I to IV for the Primary Classes of Tamil schools were also prepared and published, besides the Malayalam Readers already published and in use in the Primary, Middle and High School classes. 42 books were thus published during the year. New English copy books were also prepared and published under Government auspices and prescribed for use in the English Middle School classes and for students who take English as their optional in Malayalam and Tamil Middle Schools. The authority for the prescription of books in all language subjects, which was for some time vested in the Headmasters, was resumed by the Government and books prescribed on that basis. With a view to improving the attendance of pupils in aided schools, rules regarding the minimum attendance for the award of grant-in-aid were revised and brought into force.

English School Education.

Number and Strength of English Schools.

The number of English schools of all grades in the State, both departmental and private, rose from 295 in 1113 to 297 and their strength from 65,649 to 66,923. Thus there was an increase of 2 English schools and 1,274 pupils from those in 1113 and 11 schools and 2,400 pupils from those of 1112. The following comparative statement indicates the progress of English school education during the year:—

Nature of management.	1113		1114	
	Number.	Strength.	Number.	Strength.
Departmental English high schools for boys	24	11,978	25	11,755
Do. for girls	2	1,648	2	1,705
Do. English middle schools for boys	11	1,373	9	1,108
Do. for girls	3	432	3	389
Private English high schools for boys,	63	22,955	70	25,093
Do. for girls	17	4,633	17	4,791
Private English middle schools for boys	152	20,244	146	19,472
Do. for girls	23	2,386	25	2,610
Total	295	65,649	297	66,923

The total number of departmental English schools of all grades increased by one *viz.*, 40 during the year consequent on the raising in grade of the middle school at Perumbavoor. The strength in the departmental English high schools decreased during the year by 474. The strength in the two departmental English high schools for girls at Trivandrum is steadily on the increase. The total number of English schools under private management increased by 3 and the strength by 1,748. The number of private English high schools for girls increased by one and that of private English schools for girls by two.

Of the total number of 66,923 pupils under instruction in English schools during the year, 20,766 were girls, and of these 11,271 girls were attending boys' schools. The strength of boys' schools rose from 56,550 to 57,428 and that of girls' schools from 9,099 to 9,495. Of the total number, 51,966 or about 77·7 per cent. were undergoing instruction in private English schools and the rest in departmental schools.

The total number of candidates for the English school leaving certificate examination in 1939 was 5,296 of whom 1,100 were girls. Eligible certificates were issued to 2,468, including 497 girls, or 47·0 per cent. of the total candidates. The corresponding figures for 1113 were 4,745 candidates (3,827 boys and 918 girls) 2,522 eligibles (2,041 boys and 481 girls) and 53·2 per cent. of eligibles respectively.

English School Leaving Certificate Examination.

Malayalam and Tamil Education.

The number of Malayalam and Tamil schools rose from 3,290 in 1113 to 3,321 while their strength fell from 694,515 to 692,817. There was thus an increase in the number of institutions by 31 but a decrease in strength by 1,698. The following statement compares the number and strength of the different grades of schools, both departmental and private in 1113 and 1114:—

Progress.

Nature of School.	1113.		1114.	
	Number.	Strength.	Number.	Strength.
Departmental Malayalam and Tamil high and middle schools for boys .	165	84,606	171	82,481
Do. for girls .	64	24,783	64	24,157
Do. primary schools .	758	10,294	757	186,600
Private Malayalam and Tamil high and middle schools for boys .	178	56,662	197	60,893
Do. for girls .	39	14 982	40	15,138
Private primary schools .	2,086	322,188	2,092	323,548
Total .	3,290	694,515	3,321	692,817

The number of girls attending Malayalam and Tamil schools, both departmental and private, increased from 2,93,981 in 1113 to 2,96,034 in 1114. Co-education had become so widely prevalent in Malayalam and Tamil schools for boys that out of a total number of 75,408 girls attending high and middle schools during the year, 40,926 were attending boys' schools against 38,532, in 1113. The increase in the number of girls in such schools during 1114 was 2,394. This shows that co-education is prevalent in all classes and that there are more girls in boys' schools than boys in girls' schools. The number of boys reading in Malayalam and Tamil schools rose from 5,629 to 6,208. The increase is mainly in the primary section where the distinction between boys' and girls' school is only a survival of an old nomenclature. The total number of trained teachers during 1114 was 9,235 against 9,410 in 1113. The total number of untrained teachers in 1114 was 9,110 against 9,373 in 1113. The percentage of trained teachers in Malayalam and Tamil schools to the total number of teachers in them during 1114 was roughly 50·3 while the corresponding figure for 1113 was 50. Medical inspection of school children was conducted during the year, and it was confined to primary schools in selected areas. Proper efforts were made to open gardens in Malayalam and Tamil schools. The award of a shield to the school which maintained the best garden in each district was a sufficient inducement in this direction.

Malayalam and Tamil School Leaving Certificate and Malayalam and Tamil Higher Examinations.

The total number of candidates for the Malayalam and Tamil Higher examination including private candidates was 3,243 of whom 939 were girls. Altogether 1,149 pupils came out successful including 275 girls, the percentage of success being 35·4. For the Malayalam and Tamil school leaving certificate examination 7,956 candidates appeared of whom 2,706 were girls. Of these, 3,388 came out successful including 943 girls, the percentage of success being 42·6.

Tamil Education.

The provision of facilities for Tamil education is mainly confined to the taluks of Agastisvaram, Kalkulam, Vilavan. kode and Shencotta. During the year under report Tamil was taught as a second language in 29 English schools for boys in the Trivandrum Division, in the Model School attached

to the Training College, Trivandrum, in the private English high schools at Quilon and Munnar. There were full-time Tamil pandits in the English high school for girls, Trivandrum, and the Higher Grade Training School for women, Trivandrum (both departmental). Instruction in Tamil was provided in 58 departmental Malayalam and Tamil schools comprising 3 high schools, 10 middle schools and 45 primary schools. Of these 58 schools, 46 schools in the Trivandrum Division were purely Tamil schools and the rest bilingual schools. There were 278 teachers qualified in Tamil in all these schools together.

Night Schools.

No night school was maintained by the department but there were 10 private night schools aided by Government, and their total strength was 351. There were three aided part-time schools in the ~~Kottayam~~ taluk.

Women's Education

Progress of Women's Education.

The following table shows the number of girls under instruction in 1113 and 1114 in all classes of institutions according to management :—

Management.	No. of girls under instruction.	
	1113.	1114.
Departmental	1,29,620	1,24,604
Private	1,86,817	1,94,642
Total	3,16,437	3,19,246

The decrease in strength in departmental schools is partly due to the opening of private schools nearby. There are no separate primary schools for girls, excepting those for Muslim girls. The total number of girls undergoing instruction in all kinds of educational institutions in the State including special schools was 319,246, which showed an increase of 2,809 over that of the previous year. The number of girls in English schools increased from 19,517 to 20,617 and

in Malayalam and Tamil schools from 2,93,981 to 2,96,034. The system of co-education, widely prevalent in the State, has been responsible for the remarkable spread of female education.

Differentiation of Curricula for the Sexes.

The new policy of employing mixed staff in primary schools has made it possible for girl pupils to secure instruction in music, needle work and homecraft, even in schools in which the majority of pupils are boys. Domestic economy and Indian music have been included as optional subjects in the Malayalam and Tamil School Leaving Certificate Examination. Special examinations have also been organised by the department for testing the proficiency of applicants for the posts of music teachers and sewing mistresses in girls' schools and such appointments have been restricted to persons qualifying themselves in these examinations.

Special Schools.

Training Schools.

In addition to the Training College, there are also some special institutions for the training of holders of Malayalam and Tamil School Leaving Certificates, Malayalam and Tamil Higher Examination Certificates, and English School Leaving certificates. The course of training in these institutions extends to one academic year. There were altogether 45 training schools, 11 departmental and 34 private and of the latter, 10 were aided by Government and the rest unaided. The total strength of these schools was 1,153.

Technical Schools for Girls.

There were 18 aided technical schools for girls attached to the Education Department, where instruction was imparted chiefly in weaving, knitting, sewing and music. The strength of all such schools during the year was 1,188 against 1,177 in the previous year.

Reformatory School.

There were 28 boys on the rolls at the commencement of the year of whom 12 were released as they had served their full term of detention. There were 8 new admissions, and thus the strength of the school at the end of the year was 24. Instruction was given as usual in printing, book binding, weaving, practical agriculture and gardening, besides

in drill and in scouting. The health, conduct and discipline of the boys continued to be satisfactory.

Sanskrit Schools.

The *Kavya* section attached to the Sanskrit College, Trivandrum, under the control of the University, continued to be under the administrative control of the Education Department. There were at the end of the year 40 privately managed Sanskrit schools including 7 schools opened during the year. The total strength of the schools was 5,327 against 5,337 in 1113.

Hindi.

Teaching of Hindi was not newly introduced in any departmental English school during the year. Such schools as had Hindi introduced in previous years continued to have it as an alternative second language in the high school classes. Hindi is taught at present in eight departmental English high schools and nine private English high schools. It is in an experimental stage and the question whether it should be encouraged or not can be considered only after the progress of work done in schools is watched for some time. The *Kerala Hindi Prachar Sabha*, Trivandrum, is in receipt of a grant of Rs. 25 per mensem from Government.

Other Special Schools.

Among other special schools of a vocational character, under the control of the Education Department, the following deserve mention: (i) the screwpine vocational weaving school at Trivandrum; (ii) the vocational bias school attached to the S. L. B. English high school at Nagercoil; (iii) the weaving school attached to the Kannamangalam Malayalam middle school for girls; (iv) four kindergarten schools; (v) the *Sri Chitrodaya Narthakalaya* which is a grant-in-aid institution for imparting training in Indian dancing; (vi) two aided music schools, one 'The *Sangeetha Vidyalaya* ' at Shertallai and the other ' The Swathi Thirunal School of Music ' at Poojapura, Trivandrum; and (vii) *the Veerakerala Gymkhana* which is an aided school of physical culture at Trivandrum. All these institutions were working satisfactorily during the year. Malayalam shorthand was taught in the departmental Malayalam high school, Thiruvalla, as an alternative to a part of the commercial subjects, prescribed for the Malayalam high

school examination. The first batch of students will be presented for the examination in 1115.

Education of Special Classes.

General.

Special schools are provided for the benefit of certain communities who show a reluctance to send their children to school, if there are no separate schools for them.

Kshatriyas.

There were, as in 1113, four special schools for the education of the members of the Kshatriya families *viz*., at Mavelikara, Aranmula, Poonjar and Pantalam, in which admission was restricted to Kshatriya children of both sexes. The institution at Mavelikara is an English middle school with also a Malayalam section and the others are primary schools. The aggregate strength in these schools during 1114 was 98 against 93 in 1113. Attached to the school at Mavelikara is a boarding house run by the department where the pupils are given free meals and lodging.

Malayala Brahmins.

The number of Malayala Brahmins under instruction was 1,900 against 2,030 in 1113. There was a special English middle school at Kulakada, Kunnatur taluk, for the exclusive use of the members of this community. The number of pupils under instruction in the school at the end of 1114 was 85, of whom 9 were girls.

Mahomedans.

Special inducements have for some years past been offered to Mahomedan pupils in the matter of education. In addition to fee-concessions, special scholarships for Mahomedans are awarded at all stages of education, based on the results of a competitive examination held exclusively for them. All Mahomedan girls who are poor are taught free in Malayalam and Tamil schools and English schools and all Mahomedan girls in English schools are given scholarships. Special schools for the exclusive use of the members of the community have also been provided in certain areas and an English high school is maintained at Alleppey for the benefit of the community. There is also a Mahomedan Inspector for the inspection of Arabic

and Koran teaching in schools and for encouraging generally the spread of education amongst the members of the community. He also acts as a consultant in matters relating to Mahomedan education. The total number of Mahomedans under instruction in all classes of institutions together was 31,642 against 33,153 in the previous year. Of these, 29,490 were in Malayalam and Tamil schools and 2,077 in English schools against 30,893 and 2,102 respectively in the previous year. The number of Mahomedan girls in English schools rose from 424 in 1113 to 462 in 1114 while that in the Malayalam and Tamil schools, fell from 9,319 to 8,664. The teaching of Arabic was provided in 278 schools in 1114 against 272 in 1113. The Association of Muslim parents and teachers under a revised scheme was extended to three more taluks *viz.*, Kalkulam, Quilon and Karunagapalli. Mahomedan scholarships are awarded to Mahomedan pupils and are tenable in English high and middle schools and Malayalam and Tamil middle schools. Mahomedan pupils can also compete for His Highness the Maharaja's 'Open' Scholarships. All Mahomedan girls in English schools are awarded scholarships at the rates admissible for Mahomedan boys in such institutions.

Backward Class Education.

The education of backward communities is systematically encouraged by the grant of special fee concessions, stipends, scholarships, boarding grants, etc. There was during the year 87,841 pupils (59,565 boys and 28,276 girls) belonging to backward communities in English and Malayalam and Tamil schools as against 77,707 (52,904 boys and 24,803 girls) in 1113. Of these, 12,240 (8,781 boys and 3,459 girls) were in English schools and 75,601 (50,784 boys and 24,817 girls) were in Malayalam and Tamil schools as against 13,033 (9,427 boys and 3,596 girls) in English schools and 64,674 (43,467 boys and 21,207 girls) in Malayalam and Tamil schools in 1113. There was appreciable increase in the number of backward class pupils, both boys and girls, in Malayalam and Tamil schools, though there was a slight fall in English schools. As in previous year, class readers were distributed free to the pupils of backward communities reading in classes III and IV of departmental and private schools. 30 Harijan schools were given grants during the year and an amount of

Rs. 2,952 spent on that account. 14 Harijan schools conducted under the auspices of the Kerala Hindu Mission were for the first time given grants during the year.

Miscellaneous

Hostels and Boarding Houses.

There were 43 hostels and boarding houses attached to institutions under the control of the Education Department of which 15 were aided by Government.

Medical Inspection.

The scheme of medical inspection of primary school children by a special medical staff continued to work in the taluks of Neyyattinkara, Trivandrum, Quilon, Mavelikara, Thiruvalla, Changanacherry, Kottayam and Meenachil during the year.

Scholarships, stipends and Endowments.

The expenditure incurred during the year on account of scholarships paid by Government and stipends paid to teachers deputed for training from departmental as well as private institutions amounted to Rs. 53,460 of which a sum of Rs. 17,114 was on account of scholarship and the balance on stipends to teachers deputed for training from departmental and private institutions. The expenditure on account of Mahomedan scholarships during the year was Rs. 5,410. Endowed scholarships to the total value of Rs. 1,050 were awarded during the year among the departmental high schools.

Fee Concessions.

According to the rules for the award of fee concessions the percentage of literacy of the several communities as well as their economic condition was adopted as the basis for the granting of the concessions. A sum of Rs. 1,08,045 was spent on account of fee concession during the year against Rs. 93,500 in 1113.

In order to encourage adult education, a system of awarding grants-in-aid to reading rooms and libraries was introduced from 1092 onwards. 33 such institutions were in receipt of grants and an expenditure of Rs. 2,030 was incurred on this account during the year under report. A rural library system was introduced in the year 1111 for the development and expansion of the library movement in the State. Under that scheme, suitable departmental primary schools are selected, chiefly in rural areas where library facilities do not exist, and a library and reading room is established in each of those schools. At the beginning of the year under report there were 72 departmental rural libraries under the above scheme. During the year, six more libraries, five Malayalam and one Tamil, were opened. Additional books were purchased and supplied to all the libraries. Several of the libraries received free contributions of books and periodicals.

Libraries and Reading Rooms.

There were 15 orphanages working during the year with a total strength of 984. Of these, 340 were in the Infant Jesus Orphanage at Mulagumood. The total amount of grants-in-aid paid to these orphanages in the year under report was Rs. 3,960.

Orphanages.

The policy of encouraging the scout movement in schools continued during the year. There were in all 1,515 scouts, 916 cubs, 36 rovers and 74 troops in the departmental and private English high schools and Middle schools for boys. The inauguration of girl guides is encouraged in all English schools for girls. There were 145 Girl Guides, 93 Blue Birds and 48 Red Cross in the departmental and private English schools for girls in the State. In the English High school, Munnar, there were 14 Girl Guides and 15 Blue Birds in additition to scout troops. Though the number of Girl Guides increased during the year, the Blue Birds and Red Cross decreased considerably. Both the organisations received contributions from Government.

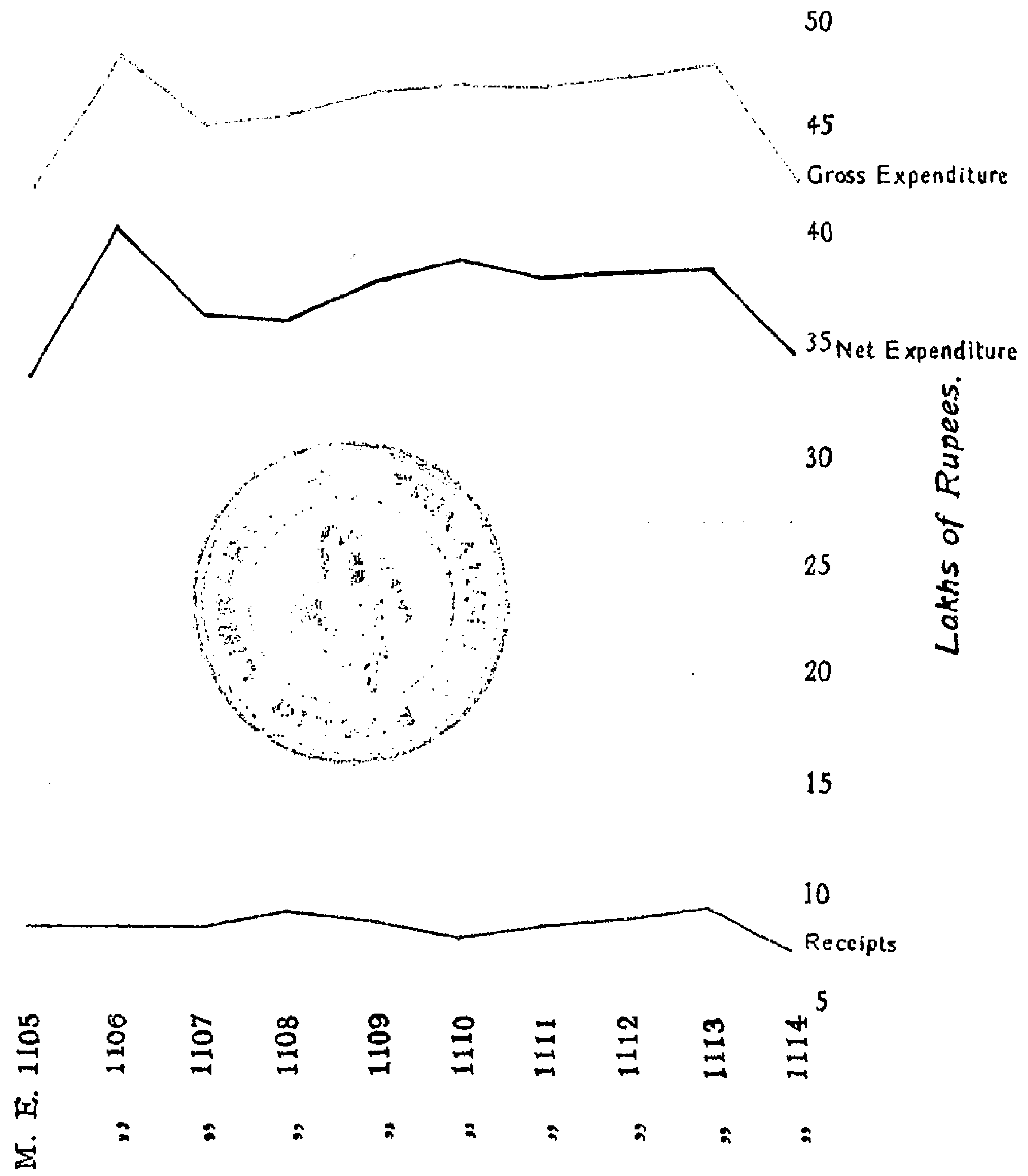
Boy Scouts and Girl Guides.

The results of the English and Malayalam and Tamil School Leaving Certificate examinations have already been mentioned in the paragraphs dealing with those branches of education. The department

Examinations.

EDUCATION

Gross Expenditure, Receipts, and Net Expenditure.



Litho, The Art Printing Works, Trivandrum.

also conducted other examinations the details of which appear in the following statement :—

Name of Examination.	Number of candidates that appeared.	Number that passed.
1. Trained Teachers' Certificate examination.		
a Higher Grade (English) .	371	172
b. Higher Grade (Malayalam and Tamil) .	524	248
c. Lower Grade Do. .	1,333	731
2. The Needlework and Garment-making examination .	124	51
3. The Special Test examination in Tamil—		
a. Higher Grade .	2	2
b. Lower Grade .	4	3
4. Arabic Munshi's examination —		
a. Higher Grade .	27	13
b. Lower Grade .	27	20
5. Music test examination —		
a. Higher Grade .	41	29
b. Lower Grade .	85	49
6. Sanskrit examinations —		
a. *Mahopadhyaya* test .	9	5
b. *Sāstri* test .	449	206

Grants-in-aid.

An expenditure of Rs. 10,97,771 was incurred during the year on account of grants-in-aid to private educational institutions for their ordinary maintenance as well as for their equipment with laboratory appliances, books, furniture, etc.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The receipts of the Education Department in 1114 amounted to Rs. 7,68,883 as against Rs. 9,54,680 in the previous year, the variation being due to the transfer of colleges and certain other institutions to the University. The total expenditure including the Government grant of Rs. 7,93,445 to the University was Rs. 50·49 lakhs against Rs. 48·05 lakhs in 1113. The expenditure on education was about one-fifth of the State's revenue during the year.

The University of Travancore.

Personnel.

There was no change in the personnel of the Chief Officers of the University. Vacancies that occurred in the Senate and the Syndicate were filled by nominations.

Meetings of University Bodies.

Two meetings of the Senate were held during the year, one on the 10th April 1939 and the other on the 29th June 1939. The Syndicate held five meetings and each of the Faculties and Boards of Studies met once.

A Board of Studies in Textile Technology was constituted during the year.

Legislation.

Certain amendments to the Statutes governing meetings of the Senate were made. A new Degree, Bachelor of Science in Engineering (B. Sc. Eng.) was instituted. Among the important amendments to the Ordinances may be mentioned the following:—

(i) the Transitory Provisions prescribing the conditions under which candidates who underwent courses of study in the Travancore Colleges, when they were affiliated to the Madras University might appear for the examinations of this University,

(ii) the regrouping of Science subjects for the B. Sc. course,

(iii) the introduction of a revised scheme for the L. T. Degree Examin tion making class-teaching, physical education and instruction in arts or crafts, compulsory for all candidates.

New Courses of Study and Institutions.

Diploma and Certificate Courses in Textile Technology and Textile Chemistry and Certificate Course in Embroidery were opened in the Institute of Textile Technology.

As decided at the conferences held for considering the question of organising Technological education in the University, the College of Engineering was started at the beginning of the academic year 1939-40. Mr. T. H. Matthewman, M. Eng., M. I. E. E., lately Officiating Principal, Maclagan

Engineering College, Lahore, was appointed Principal of the College. M. R. Ry. Vasthuvidya Kusala C. Balakrishna Rao, Avl., B. A., B. E., Retired Water Works Engineer to Government, was appointed Professor of Civil Engineering and Mr. D. L. Deshapande B. Sc. (Hons.), Manchester, M. Sc. (Engineering), Professor of Mechanical Engineering. The College provides instruction for Degree, Diploma and Certificate Courses in Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering. It is housed in the buildings formerly used for the office of the Chief Engineer to Government.

The Sri Mulam Technical School which was under the control of the Director of Industries was transferred to the control of the University.

B. A. Honours course in Sanskrit was opened in the College of Arts.

Colleges.

The following table gives the strength of the various institutions at the end of 1113 and 1114 M. E., respectively :—

Name of Institution.	*Strength.* 1113	*Strength.* 1114
His Highness the Maharaja's College of Arts	382	370
His Highness the Maharaja's College for Women	250	233
His Highness the Maharaja's Training College	130	123
His Highness the Maharaja's Sanskrit College	81	95
College of Engineering	...	82
His Highness the Maharaja's Law College	149	150
His Highness the Maharaja's College of Science	832	773
Institute of Textile Technology	...	65
St. Berchmans' College, Changanacherry	555	489
C. M. S. College, Kottayam	266	258
Scott Christian College, Nagercoil	174	192
Union Christian College, Alwaye	343	329
Total	3,162	3,159

The number of women students in the University was 449, as against 390 in the previous year.

Aid to Private Colleges.

Equipment grant amounting to Rs. 5,221-10-10 and maintenance grant amounting to Rs. 1,300 were paid to private colleges during the year. A grant of Rs. 6,305 was also paid on account of grants to hostels attached to private colleges.

A building grant of Rs. 85,958 was also sanctioned for the St. Berchmans' College, Changanacherry, during the year in respect of the block of buildings newly put up for the teaching of science subjects in the College. Out of this amount, a sum of Rs. 53,037-6-2 was adjusted on account of the value of timber supplied to the college from the Government and also on account of the advance grant paid to it when the college was under the control of the Director of Public Instruction. The balance *viz*., Rs. 32,920-21-14 was proposed to be paid to the college in two instalments, Rs. 20,000 in 1114 and Rs. 12,920-21-14 in 1115. The first instalment of Rs. 20,000 was paid to the college during the year under report.

Examinations.

The Sanskrit Entrance, B. A. (Hons.) Preliminary, B. Sc. (Hons.) Preliminary, F. L. and L. T. Degree Examinations of this University were held in March-April, 1939. The following is the statement of the results of the various examinations :—

Examination.	Number examined.	Number passed			Total No.
		1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.	
Sanskrit Entrance Examination	28	..	..	..	15
B. A. (Hons.) Preliminary Examination	19	..	(one got distinction)	..	18
B. Sc. (Hons.) Preliminary Examination	15	..	..	..	14
F. L. Examination	68	1	12	32	45
L. T. Degree	87	1	10	57	68

The senior classes of the colleges remained affiliated to the Madras University for the major part of the year. The results of the Madras University Examinations in respect of

those colleges at the end of the academic year 1938-39 are given below : —

Name of Institution.	Intermediate		B. A.		B. A. (Hons.) and M. A.	
	No. presented.	No. of complete passes.	No. presented.	No. of complete passes.	No. presented.	No. passed.
College of Arts	95	22	62	21	24	22
College of Science	183	80	129	60	12	9
College for Women	75	39	..	..	..	..
St. Berchman's College, Changanacherry	174	54	61	26	..	..
Union Christian College, Alwaye	101	38	50	26	..	..
Scott Christian College, Nagercoil	59	28	.	..	..	..
C. M. S. College, Kottayam	112	30	..	..	.	..

Out of the 77 candidates presented for the B. L. Degree Examination from the Law College, Trivandrum, 39 were successful.

Technology.

The tenure of office of Dr. H. Parameswaran, Director of Technology, was extended by one year from the 4th December 1938 ; he was also made a part-time officer and his designation changed to Professor of Applied Physics. The Professor of Applied Physics conducted a vacation course in optical technology ; six candidates were admitted to the course.

Mention has already been made in an earlier paragraph of the opening of the Institute of Textile Technology and the College of Engineering.

Oriental Studies and Fine Arts.

The Senate at its meeting held on the 10th April, 1939 resolved that a Department of Publications be instituted in the University. A small committee was constituted to advise the Syndicate on the organisation of the department and on the basis of the proposals made by the committee, Mr. T. K. Joseph, B. A., L. T., Headmaster, English High School, Chalai, and Mr. P. Seshadri Aiyar, B. A., M. L.,

Manager, Office of the Director of Registration, were appointed Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent respectively of the Department of Publications. An advisory committee was set up to supervise the work of the department, a smaller committee was also constituted for the Tamil section of the department. The Department has taken in hand the preparation of a glossary of scientific and technical terms in Malayalam. Arrangements have also been made for the publication of a standard grammar of the Malayalam language and up-to-date books in Malayalam on science subjects.

The University Oriental Manuscripts Library was started early during the year under report. Some 3,646 manuscripts (including those got on loan) were collected till the end of 1114 among which there is a considerable number of very rare and valuable manuscripts.

As in the previous year Dr. J. H. Cousins, Head of the Department of Fine Arts, gave a number of lectures designed to arouse art-consciousness among the public.

An important event of the year under report was the inauguration of the Travancore Central Research Institute, and the Council of Research. The revised scheme for the organisation of research activities in the University prepared by Dr. K. L. Moudgill, Director of Research, was considered by the Syndicate and proposals for the constitution of a Central Research Institute and a Council of Research were submitted to Government. Government sanctioned the proposals and transferred to the University (with effect from the 1st Chingam 1115) the administrative and technical control of the research units attached to certain departments. The Travancore Central Research Institute has at present the following sections:—

Department of Research.

(i) Applied Chemistry including Organic, Inorganic and Physical Chemistry.

(ii) Applied Physics and Mathematics including Astronomy, Meteorology and Statistics.

(iii) Applied Biology, including Plant breeding, Plant Pathology, Mycology and Entomology.

(iv) Public Health,

(v) Bio-Chemistry including Agricultural and Industrial Bio-Chemistry and Nutrition Research.

(vi) Marine Biology and Fisheries.

The Chairman of the Council of Research is the Vice-Chancellor (Ex-Officio). Dr. K. L. Moudgill has been appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council and Dr. T. K. Koshy, Professor of Botany in the College of Science, its Secretary.

Research on the manufacture of salt is being carried on by Mr. K. R. Krishna Aiyar, Professor of Chemistry, College of Science. The processes worked out in the laboratory are being tested by field experiments at certain *alloms* in South Travancore. Experiments on the various types of commercial oils were conducted by Dr. K. L. Moudgill with a view to discovering a substitute for the costly high speed diesel oil used in most of the Transport motor buses.

Experiments on the destruction of mosquito larvae by an indigenous fish *Aplochiluslineatus* are being carried on in the Marine Biological Laboratory. Pamphlets in Malayalam and Tamil containing specific instructions for the preservation of nets were distributed free among fishermen. A scheme for the transport of fish from coastal areas to inland markets prepared by the Professor of Marine Biology and Fisheries was under consideration. He carried out a survey of the ancient Pearl Oyster beds of Cape Comorin and Kadiapattanom. The Professor of Marine Biology and Fisheries also conducted an investigation into the economic and scientific aspects of prawn fishing in Travancore and submitted a scheme for the improvement of the prawn fisheries of the country. He made certain proposals for the reorganisation of the Department of Fisheries and the co-ordination of the work of that department and that of the department of Marine Biology and Fisheries in the University. A combined Marine Biological Laboratory and Aquarium is under construction.

All the research students admitted in the previous year, with the exception of one, continued their work during the year.

Lectures.

Under the auspices of the University the following public lectures were delivered during the year under report.

Lecturer.	*Subject.*
Dr. U. Sivaraman Nair, M. A., Ph. D., Assistant Professor of Mathematics, College of Science, Trivandrum.	"The Theory of Sampling" (six lectures).
Mr. K. Subramonia Aiyar, B. A., L. T., Retired Headmaster.	"Ancient Astronomy (six lectures).
Dr. C. R. Harler, B. SC., Ph. D., F. I. C., Chief Scientific Officer, Kannan Devan Hills Produce Co., Ltd., Munnar, and Honorary Professor of Chemistry in the University.	"Soil Chemistry" "Tea"
Dr. D. R. Bhandarkar, M. A., Ph. D., F. A. S. B., Retired Carmichael Professor of Ancient Indian History and Culture, Calcutta University.	"A Peep into Indian Archaeology" (two lectures).
Dr. J. H. Cousins.	"The Science of Poetry" (four lectures).

Other Institutions.

Early in Chingam 1114, Government transferred the following quasi-educational institutions to the control of the University.

(i) The Trivandrum Public Library.

(ii) His Highness the Maharaja's School of Arts.

(iii) The Trivandrum Observatory (including the Astronomical and Meteorological Sections).

Relations with other Universities.

Dr. K. L. Moudgill, Principal, College of Science and Dr. H. Subramonia Aiyar, Professor of Mathematics in the College were deputed to attend the Indian Science Congress at Lahore in January 1939. Mr. N. S. Narasimha Iyengar, Professor of History and Economics, College of Arts, was deputed to the Indian Economic Conference at Nagpur & Dr. D. Jivanayakom, Lecturer, Training College, to the All-India Educational Conference at Bombay. Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, represented the University on the Inter-University Board and with Mr. A. Gopala Menon, Director of Public Instruction and Dr. K. L. Moudgill,

he represented the University at the fourth Quinquennial Conference of Indian Universities held at Bombay in March 1939.

Government grant for the year including a grant of Rs. 2,50,000 under capital expenditure, was Rs. 7,93,445. Other receipts amounted to Rs. 2,19,801. The expenditure, including Rs. 15,526 under capital expenditure, was Rs. 6,96,593.

Finance.

The above report is a short narrative of the activities of the University during 1114 but the Annual Report will be published separately after it is passed by the Senate.

CHAPTER XIII.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

Local self-government in Travancore is chiefly conducted through the several municipalities created under the provisions of the Travancore Municipal Act, V of 1095.

History. The earliest piece of legislation in regard to the matter was Act II of 1069. Prior to that, a set of rules passed in 1053 M. E. governed sanitation and other matters connected with the improvement of towns. The rules applied to the town of Trivandrum and regulated only certain matters relating to conservancy. They had not the force of law and were not comprehensive enough to meet the growing needs of the capital or of the important mofussil towns. The Act passed in 1069, to provide for the conservancy and improvement of towns, created town improvement committees and town funds; but the powers of the committees were limited and their duties confined to the supervision of sanitary arrangements. The committees had no power of taxation. Five committees *viz*, those at Trivandrum, Nagercoil, Quilon, Alleppey and Kottayam, were appointed under this Act. The number of members on those committees varied from 5 to 9 with a permanent official majority. This Act was superseded by Act III of 1076 which for the first time authorised local taxation with the previous sanction of Government and thereby enabled the committees to augment their resources and to widen the scope of their usefulness. The experience gained in the working of this Act, the demands from the various committees for greater powers and the progress of local bodies elsewhere led to the promulgation of Act V of 1095 on the lines of the law in force in British India at the time. Under this Act municipal councils were constituted and the maximum official as well as the minimum elected non-official element was fixed. The scope of municipal activities was enlarged and the obligatory and discretionary duties of municipal councils were defined.

Number, Composition, Area and Population of Municipalities.

The number of municipalities in the State was 17 as in 1113. The administration of these municipalities which have been established in important urban areas is vested in the municipal councils constituted under the Act. Seven of the municipal towns are in the Trivandrum Division, five in the Quilon Division and the remaining five in the Kottayam Division. The municipal councils are composed of members, partly elected by the rate-payers and partly nominated by the Government. Of the latter, some are officials and the others non-officials. The chief executive authority is the president of the council. All the councils, except that of Trivandrum, have the right of electing their own presidents who may be chosen either from amongst the members or from outside. The President of the Trivandrum Municipal Council is a wholetime salaried official nominated by the Government. The total strength of all the councils on the last day of the year was 294, 186 being elected members and the rest, including 50 salaried officers, nominated by the Government. The area comprised within the limits of the municipalities was roughly 98 square miles, with a total population of 386,743 according to the census of 1931.

Council Meetings.

Each municipal council held on an average 23 meetings during the year. The Nagercoil Municipal Council held the largest number of meetings *viz.*, 39 and the smallest number *viz.*, 8 was held by the Municipal Council, Vaikom.

Vital Statistics and Public Health.

The birth and death rates during the year in all the municipal towns were 36·39 and 17·65 against 36·38 and 16·26 respectively per thousand of the population in 1113. As in the previous year, the Municipal Council, Quilon, recorded the highest birth rate *viz.*, 60·02 and the Municipal Council, Kayancolam, recorded the lowest birth rate *viz.*, 25·83 per thousand of the population. The highest death rate *viz.*, 28·63 was registered by the Municipal Council, Shencotta, and the lowest *viz.*, 12·27 per thousand, was recorded by the Municipal Council, Kayancolam. Infantile mortality was 72·97 per thousand of registered births against 64·9 in 1113. As in the previous year the highest rate of infantile

mortality was recorded in Shencotta *viz.*, 196·47. The lowest rate was in Alwaye *viz.*, 33·21. Excepting one imported case of cholera in the Trivandrum Municipality, there were no cases of cholera in any of the municipalities. There were sporadic cases of small-pox in some of the municipalities.

Vaccinations.

The total number of vaccinations performed in all the municipal towns together was 52,607 against 64,148 in 1113. Of these 18,896 were primary vaccinations and the remaining 33,711 re-vaccinations.

Prosecutions.

The total number of prosecutions launched by the municipal councils for infringement of the municipal law and rules was 7,570 against 7,790 in 1113 and the number of convictions during the year was 5,173 against 4,918 in the previous year. As in the previous year the largest number of prosecutions was in Trivandrum *viz.*, 4,033 and the largest number of convictions *viz*, 3,511 was also recorded in that municipality.

Finance.

The aggregate opening balance to the credit of the Councils at the beginning of the year was Rs. 2·99 lakhs. The total receipts of all the councils together including Government grants amounted to Rs. 5·92 lakhs and the total amount available for expenditure by the councils was 8·92 lakhs. A sum of Rs. 5·16 lakhs out of the above amount was spent by the councils during the year, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 3·76 lakhs.

Miscellaneous.

The main function of municipal administration continued to be the care of sanitation and public health. Among the obligatory functions devolving on municipalities, lighting of public streets, vaccination and registration of births and deaths were attended to by all the municipal councils. The health visitors in the municipalities at Nagercoil and Alleppey and the midwives under the municipal councils at Trivandrum, Kuzhithura, Neyyattinkara, Alleppey, Tiruvalla, Changanacherry and Kottayam continued to do useful maternity and

child welfare work. The Nagercoil and Trivandrum Municipal Councils continued to maintain leper clinics for the treatment of lepers. The municipalities of Quilon, Nagercoil and Tiruvalla each maintained a library and reading room and the Kuzhithura Municipality maintained one library and two reading rooms as well as a primary school. A reading room was maintained by the Attingal Municipal Council. The encouragement given to Ayurveda Vaidyans in some municipal towns by a system of subventions continued during the year. Till the end of 1107, tolls were being levied on vehicles and animals by both the P. W. D. and some of the municipalities. All the municipal toll-gates on land routes except those at Trivandrum and Shencotta were permanently abolished from the 1st Chingam 110) and P. W. D. toll-gates were established instead at suitable places. To compensate to some extent the loss sustained by the municipalities concerned by the deprivation of toll revenue from road traffic, the Government gave them adequate grants.

Incidence of Taxation.

From the data furnished by the several municipal councils, it is seen that the incidence in the form of rates and taxes was the highest in Trivandrum *viz.*, Rs. 2 Chs. 4 and cash 8 and the lowest in Colachel *viz.*, Chs. 3 and cash 9. Calculated in relation to the total revenue also the incidence was the highest in Trivandrum *viz.*, Rs. 2 Chs. 27 and cash 6 and it was lowest in Colachel *viz.*, Chs. 10 and cash 12.

Village Panchayats.

With a view to extend the sphere of local self-government to rural areas, the constitution of village panchayats, under the Village Panchayats Act, VII of 1100, was sanctioned at six places *viz.*, Boothapandy, Nedumangad, Paravur, Samburvadakara, Ettumanur and Perumpavur in the year 1107 and they came into working order with regular budget estimates of receipts and expenditure in 1109. One more panchayat *viz.*, at Airoor in the Tiruvalla taluk, was formed in 1112. The seven panchayats comprise an area of about 69 sq. miles with a total population of 87,678. There were altogether 63 members, of whom 42 were elected by the people and the rest nominated by the Government. Sanitation

and lighting of roads and improvement of tanks and wells were the main items of work undertaken by the panchayats. The total funds at the disposal of the panchayats comprising the previous year's closing balance and the receipts of the year under report, including the contribution from Government, amounted to Rs. 13,415. The total expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 5,599. The closing balance at the end of the year aggregated to Rs. 7,816.

CHAPTER XIV.

HINDU RELIGIOUS AND CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

Devaswom Commissioner. *Mr. C. N. Sreeranganatha Sastri, B. A., B. L.*

General.

In pursuance of the Devaswom Proclamation dated the 12th April 1922, the control of the Sirkar Devaswoms, which had been vested in the Land Revenue Department, was taken away from that department and vested in the Devaswom Department, newly formed from the commencement of 1098 M. E. To meet the annual expenditure on Devaswoms, it was also resolved to credit to Devaswoms, annually, a sum representing not less than 40 per cent. of the State's recurring land revenue and to constitute a Devaswom Fund comprising this allotment and the other miscellaneous items of revenue like offerings etc., received by them. The newly formed Devaswom Department was entrusted with the administration not only of the Sirkar Devaswoms but also of *Japadakshina* and *Oottus* or charitable institutions, with the exception of the Sri Padmanabhaswami temple and the *Agrasala* at the Capital, and of Personal Deposit Devaswoms and of their properties situated in and outside the State. Towards the close of 1100, the Dewan was relieved of his duties and responsibilities in connection with the administration of the Devaswoms within the purview of the Devaswom Proclamation; and their administration was entrusted to the Devaswom Commissioner, who was made directly responsible to the Sovereign, except in certain important matters in respect of which the previous approval of the Dewan had to be obtained. From Vrichikam 1107, however, the notification giving effect to this arrangement was cancelled and the Devaswom Department was again placed under the Dewan like the other departments of Government.

Devaswoms Major, Minor and Petty.

Scheduled Devaswoms are grouped into three classes *viz.*, major, minor and petty, according to the annual expenditure. Major Devaswoms are those whose annual expenditure is Rs. 1,000 or more, minor, between Rs. 100 and Rs. 1,000 and petty, below Rs. 100. The number of major, minor and petty Devaswoms at the close of the year 1114 was the same as in the previous year *viz.*, 159, 361 and 935, respectively. The organisation of religious discourses in Devaswoms continued to work satisfactorily in 1114. Besides the usual religious discourses, *Harikathas*, *Patakams* etc., religious conventions were held in three important centres. These were addressed by distinguished and eminent persons. In view of the low pay of the *Santhikars* in some of the Devaswoms, the *pathivus* of which have not been revised, the pay of the *Santhikars* in one more major, 3 minor and 7 petty Devaswoms was revised during the year.

Verification of Valuables in Devaswoms.

The verification, custody and utilisation of *Thiruvabharanams* and other valuables in temples are some of the important items of work relating to Devaswoms. There are five special officers for this purpose, one for the major Devaswoms containing valuables exceeding a book value of Rs. 10,000 and four others, one in each of the four Devaswom Districts, for the other Devaswoms. The officer and staff appointed in 1113 to deal with the reports of the special officers continued in 1114. A comparative statement of the number of the various kinds of valuables in the several classes of Devaswoms verified by the special officers in 1113 and 1114 is given below :—

Items.	No. verified in 1113.	No. verified in 1114.
Thiruvabharanams	5,053	3,399
Bharanipatroms	12,780	17,326
Pattupavivattams	706	2,433
Other miscellaneous valuables	1,469	1,634

Side by side with the verification, the useless and unserviceable articles were disposed of and new articles supplied according to the requirements of each institution.

The Public Works Department attended to all major works connected with the temples, all works under petty construction and repairs being, as usual, carried out by the Devaswom Department itself. The Maramat Committee appointed in the previous year continued to scrutinise the estimates of Devaswoms before they were sanctioned. The following statement gives the expenditure under Devaswom Works during 1113 and 1114:—

Devaswom Works.

Description of work.	Expenditure.	
	1113	1114
	Rs.	Rs.
Incomplete works, New works and Minor Devaswom works	1,57,542	2,12,220
Petty construction and repairs	68,980	69,734

The renovation of a large number of minor and petty Devaswoms resulted in a larger number of worshippers being attracted to these temples.

The Sri Chitra Central Hindu Religious Library.

The Sri Chitra Central Hindu Religious Library which was opened at Trivandrum in 1112 carried on many useful activities, as in the previous year. Religious discourses, numbering 205 in all, were held in the library hall; and all the functions were well attended and highly appreciated by the public. The library was well used by the public, the daily average number of readers being 16. The total number of books at the end of the year was 2,036 against 1,525 in the previous year. There were also 19 magazines and journals in the library. Part II of the '*Geetha Samgrana*', which is a book on the fundamental principles of Hinduism based on the *Bhagavat Geetha*, was printed and distributed during the year.

The Working of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act.

The Hindu Religious Endowments Act, III of 1079, provides for the better administration of Hindu religious endowments in the State. Under this Act, it is competent to the Government to intervene in the affairs of such institutions and to assume their management whenever necessary. Cases requiring such intervention have been markedly on the increase during recent years. Enquiries under Section 6 of the Act were in progress in respect of 13 institutions at the end of the previous year; and, during the year under report, enquiries in respect of 13 more institutions were ordered by Government. Of these, enquiries were completed in the case of 7 Devaswoms. During the year Government ordered the assumption of the management of Vaipur, Devicolam and Kodanad Devaswoms, under Section 5 (1) of the Act. Enquiries in respect of 17 Devaswoms and other religious endowments were in progress at the close of the year.

Personal Deposit Devaswoms.

Personal Deposit Devaswoms are unincorporated religious institutions which came under the control and management of Government at different times and under varying circumstances. The accounts in respect of these are not merged in the general Devaswom accounts, but are maintained separately and independently. They have personal deposit accounts with the Government treasuries. The total number of such institutions rose from 74 in 1113 to 76 owing to the inclusion, during the year, of the Devicolam Sastha temple and the Vaipur temple. Of the 76 institutions, 13 were in the Suchindram District, 22 in the Trivandrum District, 9 in the Ambalapuzha District and 32 in the Vaikam District. The most important of these are (i) the Pattazhi Devaswom, (ii) the Erumeli and Paschima Devaswoms, (iii) the Turavur Devaswom, (iv) the Perumbavur Devaswom and (v) the Perumanam Devaswom in the Cochin State, owned by the Cochin Government, the *Uchapooja* service in which is conducted by the Travancore Government by virtue of the right acquired from the Parur Raja by the annexation of that principality to the Travancore State. The surplus funds of all the Personal Deposit Devaswoms together amounted to Rs. 5,19,423 at the close of the year, against Rs. 4,98,230 at the close of the previous year.

Instructional Institutions.

The *Sri Chitrodaya Devapooja Patasala* at Tiruvalla for the training of persons in the performance of '*Santhi*' or devotional service in temples continued during the year; and its term was extended till the close of 1117 M. E. The *Veda Patasala* at Trivandrum also continued during the year, with 71 pupils.

Devaswom Fund.

The Devaswom Fund consists of the Government's contribution and the income derived from *Nadavaravus*, interest on investments, sale proceeds of surplus provisions and old materials, revenue from Devaswom lands, etc. The Government's contribution to the Devaswom Fund, which, till 1106 M. E., had been a lump allotment of Rs. 16 lakhs per annum, subsequently fixed at forty per cent. of the *Ayacut* and *Sanchayam* land revenue of the State from 1107, was further revised in 1110, when it was decided that the contribution should be a sum not less than Rs. 16 lakhs, provided that it does not fall below forty per cent. of the total *Ayacut* and *Sanchayam* land revenue, the *Kandukrishi* land revenue also being included in the *Ayacut* land revenue in calculating the percentage. The Government's contribution for the years 1113 and 1114 was accordingly Rs. 16 lakhs each. The total receipts of the Fund, including the above contribution, amounted to Rs. 18,31,903 in 1114, against Rs. 18,35,169 in 1113. The total expenditure charged to the Fund was Rs. 13,76,309, against Rs. 13,35,205 in 1113. This does not include the pay of the officers and the establishment of the Devaswom Department which is met from the general revenues of the State.

Miscellaneous.

Volume II of the Devaswom Manual was printed during the year; and copies of the book were supplied to the officers of the department. The Devaswom calendar, containing details of the various festivals in the Devaswoms, was published this year also. The Devaswom Officers' Test was introduced; and the first examination was conducted during the year. The Sub-Group Officers' Test was also conducted.

The live-stock in the possession of the department during the year consisted of 21 elephants as in the previous year (10 tuskers and the rest cow elephants), 18 cows, 8 bulls, 17 cow calves, 14 bull calves and one peacock.

Expenditure on Devaswoms and Charities.

The subjoined statement shows the total expenditure incurred by Government on Devaswoms and charities during the years 1113 and 1114 over and above the Government's contribution to the Devaswom Fund:—

Heads of Expenditure.	1113.	1114.
	Rs.	Rs.
I. Devaswoms.		
Controlling Agencies	1,14,366	1,18,052
Sripandaravagai	2,05,855	2,11,058
Grants to temples (within the State and outside the State)	47,534	44,013
Total	3,67,755	3,73,123
II. Charitable Institutions.		
Agrasala	1,10,440	1,09,243
Mofussil oottupuras	33,356	32,461
Vedic Schools, Japadakshina, etc.	1,10,357	1,11,710
Charities outside the State	8,201	7,446
Miscellaneous	150	150
Total	2,62,504	2,61,010
Devaswom Miscellaneous	5,559	4,037
Extraordinary expenditure	2,215	4,281
Total	7,774	8,318
Total of Devaswoms	6,38,033	6,42,451
State Charities	9,261	9,179
Total	6,47,294	6,51,930

The *Sripandaravagai* and the *Agrasala* are outside the control of the Devaswom Department. These institutions are under the administrative control of the Palace. The expenditure under the *Sripandaravagai* and *Agrasala* is not included in the expenditure controlled by the Devaswom Department. The total expenditure on Devaswoms and charities, including that charged to the Devaswom Fund, was Rs. 20,28,239, against Rs. 19,82,499 in 1113.

CHAPTER XV.

MISCELLANEOUS

Anchal (State Postal Department).

Superintendent. *Mr. R. Padmanabha Aiyar, B. A.*

Early History.

The Sirkar Anchal is one of the earliest institutions in the State. Its reorganisation so long ago as 1784 A. D. is the earliest available record relating to the department. Its original function was confined to the transmission of State covers and sundry articles like vegetables, flowers, etc., from mofussil stations, for use in the Palace and the Sri Padmanabha Swami temple. In 1848, the deparment was thrown open to Government servants and petitioners, private letters of Government servants and petitions from members of the public being carried free. Private covers were accepted from 1860; and postage on letters, packets, etc., was regulated during the succeeding year. Registered envelopes were introduced in 1865, Anchal stamps and cards in 1888, the money order system in 1901, the value payable system in 1906 and the savings bank work in 1912.

Anchal Offices and Letter Boxes.

There were 364 Anchal Offices at the beginning of the year. Three Anchal Offices were newly opened during the year, against 8 in the previous year. Two non-departmental Anchal Offices were converted into departmental ones and three non-departmental Anchal Offices were abolished during the year. The total number of Anchal Offices at the end of the year was 364 of which 190 were departmental and the rest *viz.*, 174 non-departmental Offices. The number of letter boxes at the end of the year was 583 against 563 at the end of the previous year.

Articles Posted.

The subjoined statement shows the number of private, official and privileged articles posted in the different Anchal Offices of the State during the year:—

	1113	1114	Increase.
Private	17,495,384	17,690,120	194,736
Official	4,840,685	4,945,881	105,196
Privileged	1,056,726	1,062,715	5,989
Total	23,392,795	23,698,716	305,921

Delivery of Articles.

The number of articles delivered rose from 23,673,110 in 1113 to 23,876,120 in 1114 which gave an average of 35,636 articles for each peon to deliver against 35,992 in 1113. This works out to 97 articles for a single peon per diem against 101 in the previous year and this fall is due to the increase of delivery peons from 658 to 670 in the year under review. Inclusive of those in transmission or pending delivery at the end of the previous year and those received from Cochin, the total number of articles for disposal was 24,007,694 and all except 63,320 articles which were either in transmission or pending delivery at the close of the year, were disposed of.

Value payable and Insured Articles.

The total number of value payable articles, both inland and foreign, issued in Travancore during 1114, was 23,756 against 32,023 in 1113. Including the 221 undelivered value payables of the previous year and 1,668 received from the Cochin State for delivery in Travancore, the total number of value payables for delivery was 24,421 against 33,047 in the previous year. Of these, 19,941 were delivered to addressees and 4,276 returned to senders having been refused by the addressees leaving 204 pending at the end of the year. As in the previous year, 20 Anchal Offices were doing insurance business. The number of articles insured rose from 133 in 1113 to 208 in 1114; and all were delivered during the year.

As in previous years, all the Anchal Offices in the State were doing hundi business. The hundi branch comprises inland hundies, foreign hundies with Cochin, revenue hundies and revenue remittance hundies. The total number of hundies both inland and foreign issued in 1114 was 469,024 for Rs. 40·72 lakhs against 508,895 for Rs. 39·06 lakhs in 1113 and of these 449,128 were inland hundies for Rs. 38·60 lakhs and 19,896 foreign hundies for Rs. 2·13 lakhs. Including 2,233 hundies pending payment at the end of 1113, the total number of hundies for delivery in 1114 was 465,853 of which 463,533 were delivered in Travancore, 172 were redirected to Cochin for payment and 2,148 were pending payment at the end of the year. Travancore hundies for Rs. 2·10 lakhs were paid in Cochin and Cochin hundies for Rs. 1·30 lakhs were paid in Travancore.

Hundi Business.

The number of Anchal Offices doing savings bank business at the close of the year was 153 as against 149 at the end of 1113. There were 149,754 savings bank transactions against 186,807 in the previous year of which 62,783 were deposits and 86,971 were withdrawals. The deposits amounted to Rs. 65·40 lakhs and the withdrawals to Rs. 66·13 lakhs. The balance held by the savings bank at the close of the year was Rs. 92·45 lakhs against Rs. 89·56 lakhs at the end of the previous year.

Savings Bank.

The number of articles received in the dead letter office during the year was 37,607 against 36,363 in the previous year of which 22,100 were destroyed, 7,909 were redirected to parties, (senders or addressees) 670 were returned to the Anchal Superintendent, Cochin, 3,844 directed to the Postal Department and 3,084 were disposed of as dead.

Dead Letter Office.

The total length of the mail lines at the end of 1114 was 1,614 miles against 1,606 miles at the end of the previous year. The transport of mails was made by railway for 99 miles, by motor boats for 18 miles, by motor buses for 693½ miles and by runners for 803½ miles.

Anchal Mail Lines.

One hundred and sixty complaints were received during the year of which 154 were disposed of. Of these 65 ended in punishment of the subordinates concerned.

Miscellaneous.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The gross receipts of the department amounted to Rs. 4,73,074 against Rs. 4,79,939 in 1113 and the working expenses to Rs. 3,89,299 against Rs. 3,86,836 in the previous year. The net receipts of the department amounted to Rs. 83,775 against Rs. 93,103 in the previous year.

The Transport Department.

Superintendent. *Mr. E. G. Salter.*

General.

A Transport Department was organised in 1113; and the transport along certain routes in the State was taken over by the department. At the end of 1113 M. E., the following routes were under the control of the department *viz.*, Trivandrum-Nagercoil, Trivandrum-Neyyattinkara, Nagercoil-Colachel, Nagercoil-Cape Comorin, Trivandrum-Quilon as also the service within the municipal limits of Trivandrum, with extension to Nedumangad. The work of the department during 1114 was more or less confined to the operation and improvement of the services taken up during the previous year.

Parcels and Goods Transport.

In conjunction with the passenger service, a parcel service was also carried on. Agents were appointed at important stations on the routes for receiving parcels from consignors and for transmitting and distributing them to the consignees. Of the 21 agencies functioning at the end of the previous year, 6 were abolished during the year under review. About 33,400 parcels were transmitted during the year against 13,000 parcels in the previous year. The receipts from the parcel agencies amounted to Rs. 13,346.

A lorry service between Munnar and Cochin for the transport of goods for the Kannan Devan Hills Produce Co., Ltd., Munnar, was started towards the close of the year. The distance of the line is 87 miles; and the transport consisted in taking tea for export and bringing back provisions for the

estates, totalling about 15,000 tons per annum. During the two and a half months of operation, the department secured Rs. 60,680 from this lorry service.

Mileage, Fare and Traffic.

No new line was opened during the year, except in the area covered by the Trivandrum Town service. The fare of 8 cash per mile adopted last year on all routes excepting the routes covered by the Trivandrum Town Service was continued during 1114 also. 4,99,304 passengers, 33,400 parcels and 2,763 tons of goods were carried during the year and the total mileage involved was 31,91,696 of which 10,804 miles were dead or unproductive.

Amenities to Passengers.

Most of the buses are equipped with saloon bodies which are so designed as to provide the maximum riding comfort. A high standard of tidiness is maintained; and the seats are regularly sprayed with insecticides. Waiting rooms are provided at Trivandrum, Nagercoil and Quilon. The utmost civility and courtesy towards passengers is insisted on; and any member of the staff acting otherwise is severely dealt with. The grant of concession tickets was continued during 1114 also. On the application of private individuals and institutions, buses were given on hire for excursions, tours, marriages etc. On occasions of festivals and other important events which attracted large crowds, additional vehicles were run for the convenience of passengers.

Miscellaneous.

During the year, a Traffic Board, with the Chief Engineer, the Inspector-General of Police and the Superintendent of Transport as members and the Chief Secretary to Government as President, was formed with a view to co-ordinating the activities of the Public Works, the Police and the Transport Departments in matters affecting the Transport scheme. There were 37 accidents during the year *i. e.*, one accident for every 86,000 miles run.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The following statement shows the demand for 1114 under the various items :—

	Rs.	Ch.	C.
Passenger fare ...	8,03,544	9	14
Luggage ...	...	14	...
Parcel ...	13,345	26	8
Posts and Anchal Mails ...	732	24	0
Miscellaneous ...	4,228	17	13
Goods transport ...	60,679	16	6
Total ...	8,82,531	24	9

Of the above amount, a sum of Rs. 8,70,418 was collected during the year. The working expenses amounted to Rs. 6,92,391 as detailed below :—

	Rs.	*Ch.*	*C.*
(1) Administration, Management and Control ...	37,059	17	1
(2) Repairs, renewals and maintenance ...	70,551	4	9
(3) Operating expenses ...	5,84,780	2	0
Total ...	6,92,390	23	10

The total income represented an average of 7·7 chs. per vehicle per mile, as against 7·3 chs. in the previous year. The net capital investment till the close of the previous year was Rs. 6,14,232 and the investment during the year amounted to Rs. 2,25,654 bringing the total expenditure to Rs. 8,39,886. There has been a substantial addition to the rolling stock during the year. 28 buses and 15 lorries were added to the initial fleet of 59 buses and one lorry. The political disturbances in the State, engineered by the State Congress, resulted in severe losses to the department. Mob violence caused a serious, though temporary, reduction in traffic and in increase of expenditure under repairs and renewals occasioned by the damage inflicted on vehicles by violent crowds.

Mint.

General.

The Travancore Mint was established in 965 M. E. (1789-90 A. D.) at Padmanabhapuram. To begin with gold coins known as *Anantarayan Fanams*, silver *chuckrams* and copper *cash* were issued. The Mint was permanently transferred to Trivandrum in 1824 A. D. The history of Travancore coins dates back to remote antiquity far earlier than the date of establishment of

the Mint. Gold, silver, zinc and copper coins were once in circulation. Travancore gold coins are not now legal tender. The existing currency is described in Chapter I.

Control.

The administrative control of the Mint, which had been vested in the Accountant-General, was transferred and vested in the Financial Secretary to Government, who was also appointed as the ex-officio Superintendent of Stamps, from the beginning of 1114.

Minting.

Copper coins to the face value of Rs. 36,966 were minted during the year, the blanks therefor having been obtained from Birmingham.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The total receipts of the institution amounted to Rs. 14,436, of which Rs. 14,252 was gain on copper coinage. An expenditure of Rs. 5,968 was incurred during the year on account of salaries, establishment and contingencies. A capital expenditure of Rs. 27,149 was also incurred on account of the purchase of two electric driven coining presses.

Coins in Circulation.

The following statement shows the Sirkar coins assumed to be in circulation :—

Description of coins.	Face value of coins minted			Amount held in treasuries at the close of 1114.	Amount assumed to be in circulation.
	Up to the end of 1113.	In 1114.	Total minted		
SILVER	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Half rupees	6,99,995	..	6,99,995	1,30,026	5,69,969
Quarter rupees	2,50,000	..	2,50,000	48,517	2,01,483
Fanams	6,07,123	..	6,07,123	2,33,202	3,73,921
Total	15,57,118	..	15,57,118	4,11,745	11,45,373
COPPER					
Chuckrams	12,05,389	1,537	12,06,926	3,35,739	8,71,187
Half *chuckrams*	5,11,296	11,536	5,22,832	1,33,280	3,89,552
Quarter *chuckrams*	2,41,477	19,000	2,60,477	38,198	2,22,279
Cash	1,59,388	4,893	1,64,281	9,748	1,54,533
Total	21,17,550	36,966	21,54,516	5,16,965	16,37,551
Total of copper and silver coins	36,74,668	36,966	37,11,634	9,28,710	27,82,924

Coins cut.

The subjoined statement shows the details of the Sirkar and British Indian coins cut by the treasury officers of the State during the year 1114 M. E :—

Description of coins.	Number of counterfeit coins.	Number of light weight, defective and withdrawn coins.	Total No. of coins.	Face value.		
				Rs.	Ch.	C.
STATE COINS.						
Half rupees	228	18	246	123	0	0
Quarter rupees	74	15	89	22	7	0
Fanams	362	8	270	52	24	0
One chuckram	289	..	289	10	9	0
Half chuckram	6	..	6	0	3	0
Total	959	41	1,000	208	15	0
BRITISH INDIAN COINS.						
Rupees	44	..	44	44	22	0
Half rupees	1	..	1	0	14	4
Quarter rupees	4	..	4	1	0	8
Two anna pieces	16	..	16	2	1	0
Total	65	...	65	48	9	12

Government Press.

Superintendent. *Mr. P. E. Mathew, B. A.*

General.

The Government Press was first organised about the year 1836 A. D. In addition to the Government Gazette published every Tuesday, the most important items of work done by the Government Press, in conjunction with the Central Prison Press, are the printing of the State Administration Report, the Departmental Reports, the Statistical Volume, the forms etc., required by the several departments and the proceedings of both the Houses of the Legislature.

Machinery and Plant.

The value of plant at the end of last year stood at Rs. 1,50,995. Types etc., cast in the Government Press to the value of Rs. 21,081 were added to the stock during the year. Deducting depreciation and making allowance for the battered types issued, the value of the plant at the end of

the year stood at Rs. 1,48,367. No new machinery was purchased during the year except small items of plant got down from the P. W. D. Workshops.

Out-turn.

The number of standard pages of foolscap folio set in the composing branch, including the pages allowed on account of time spent on author's corrections, was 54,930, against 55,267 in the previous year. The total number of impressions struck was 1,88,75,235 against 2.51,03,088 in 1113. In the Type Foundry, 17,947 lbs. of types etc., and 5,597 square inches of engraved line blocks etc., were cast and cut during the year. The binding section executed works to the value of Rs .43,184 against Rs. 59,330 in the previous year. The total value of printing and binding works done for the various departments of the State during the year was Rs. 2,56,109 against Rs. 2,71,494 in the previous year. The value of the work done for the Legislative Bodies was Rs. 10,228 against Rs. 9,256 in 1113. Comparing the cost of production with the total out-turn it is seen that for every rupee spent the press was able to turn out Rs. 2·06 worth of work.

Gazette.

The average circulation of the Gazette and the departmental sheets during the year is compared below with that of the previous year:—

	Year.	Number subscribed.	Number issued free.
Gazette	1113	1,001	639
	1114	859	625
Departmental sheets	1113	88	6,109
	1114	106	6,334

In addition to the 52 weekly issues of the Gazette, three extraordinary gazettes were also issued.

Receipts and Expenditure.

Under all the heads, except under Gazette subscription, there was an increase in receipts during the year. The receipts amounted to Rs. 1,59,714 against Rs. 1,28,380 in the previous year. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 1,70,648. Deducting a sum of Rs. 4,266 on account of

credits given through the Accountant General's Office for works done for some of the departments the expenditure was Rs. 1,66,381.

Stationery.

The subjoined statement shows the receipts and expenditure under stationery during 1114 :—

Particulars.	1112	1113	1114
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts	4,639	3,704	3,318
Expenditure	1,38,017	1,90,122	1,30,969
Deduct cost debitable to Anchal, Electricity, Mascot Hotel, Water Works, Clay Refining and Porcelain Factory, State Transport and Malayalam Readers and copy books	34,864	46,703	26,351
Net Expenditure	1,03,153	1,43,419	1,04,618

During the year under report, purchases to the value of Rs. 1,29,997 were made against Rs. 1,74,618 during the previous year. The value of articles issued during the year 1114 amounted to Rs.1,30,969 against Rs. 1,43,182 in the previous year. The value of the stock on hand at the close of the year was Rs.1,61,443 against Rs. 1,62,415 during 1113 M. E.

Presses and Publications.

The number of printing presses at the end of the year was 187, against 166 in 1113. The number of books published from the various presses was 233. Of these 105 were published in Malayalam, 91 in English, 4 in Tamil, 15 in English—Malayalam and Tamil, 4 in Arabic, 7 in Arabic-Malayalam and 7 in Sanskrit. As in the previous years, the majority of the private publications related to general literature and the rest dealt with religion, history, education, medicine, scientific and miscellaneous matters.

Newspapers and Periodicals.

There were 34 newspapers and 68 periodicals published in the State during the year against 26 newspapers and 67 periodicals in 1113. Of these, 42 were published in Malayalam, 15 in English, 5 in Tamil, 37 in English—Malayalam and Tamil, 2 in English, Malayalam and Latin and one in Sanskrit, English and Malayalam. Of the newspapers and periodicals in circulation, 11 were dailies, 1 tri-weekly, 24 weeklies, one bi-monthly, 56 monthlies, one published once in two months, 2 were quarterlies, 4 published once in four months, one half-yearly and one annually. Of the 102 newspapers and periodicals, 33 dealt with general and political, 13 with social and religious, 29 with religious, 2 with commercial, 3 with medical and public health, 2 with legal, 3 with humorous, 16 with general, educational and literary topics and one with labour problems. During the year under report, 12 licences were issued to newspapers and periodicals under Section 3 of the Travancore Newspapers Act., V of 1101, as amended by Act, IV of 1110. The total number of newspapers and periodicals that were being published at the close of the year was 86.

Department of Information.

A Press Room and Inquiry Office in the General and Revenue Secretariat was organised in 1090 (1915), under the immediate control of the Chief Secretary to Government, with a view to enabling the Press to obtain authentic information regarding matters of public interest dealt with by Government. In 1107, it was reorganised and placed in charge of a separate officer with the designation of "Publicity Officer and Librarian." In 1108, this officer was relieved of his duties as Librarian and appointed full-time Publicity Officer. The examination of newspapers and periodicals published in Travancore and outside, preparation of summaries of articles in them, and taking cuttings of useful and informative articles from the newspapers, were the main items of work attended to in the Press Room. In 1110, the correspondence relating to the issue of licences to newspapers under the Newspapers Act and the correspondence relating to the Copyright Act were entrusted to the Publicity Officer. In 1114, the Photographic Department was amalgamated with the Press Room and Inquiry Office and the whole styled as the Department of Information. The officer in charge of the department was designated Director of

Information instead of Publicity Officer. The Director of Information serves as a link between the Government and the Press, issues communiques and press notes whenever necessary, corrects wrong news regarding the Government, keeps the Government informed of the trend of public opinion as reflected in the newspapers within and outside the State, and gives effective publicity to matters relating to the State. Information regarding the State is promptly supplied to tourists and others, on enquiry. In the Press Room, accredited press representatives are given all possible information on the orders of Government on important administrative measures and appointments, the working of the various departments, the new schemes planned by Government, the programmes of the tours of His Highness the Maharaja and on other references made by them.

Publication of Oriental Manuscripts.

Curator. *Mr. K. Sambasiva Sastri.* (*Till 30th Thulam 1114*)
Mr. K. Mahadeva Sastri (*Ag.*) (*For the rest of the year.*)

General.

The department for the preservation and publication of ancient manuscripts was organised in 1084 M. E. (1908—9 A. D.) and it was entrusted with the work of publication of the valuable old manuscripts found in the Palace *Grandhapura* or obtained from private libraries in the State. In order to ensure the speedier collection and publication of the Malayalam manuscripts, this work was entrusted to a separate agency in 1099 M. E. (1924—25 A. D.). But as it was uneconomical to have two publishing departments and in order to avoid duplication of agencies for the collection of manuscripts, the department for the publication of Malayalam and Ayurvedic manuscripts was amalgamated in 1105 with the department for the publication of Sanskrit manuscripts, the combined department being designated the Department for the Publication of Oriental Manuscripts. From 1108, the work of publication of the Ayurvedic manuscripts was entrusted to the Principal, Ayurveda College. The Sanskrit and Malayalam publications of the department are stocked in the Government Press and sold from there.

During the year, 15 works were prepared for publication and sent to the Press. The pundit staff of the department also prepared for press 94,736 *grandhas* against 64,202 *grandhas* in the previous year. The number of *grandhas* finally printed was 48,992 against 76,941 in the previous year. During the year, two works in Malayalam were reprinted and published. The number of manuscripts collected during the year was 100 of which 22 were rare and unpublished, 35 were second copies and the remaining 43 were copies of important works already published. Distinguished scholars visited this office prominent among whom were Dr. D. R. Bhandarkar of the Calcutta University and Mr. C. A. Rylands, Lecturer in Sanskrit, School of Oriental Studies, London.

Work of the Department.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure of the department amounted to Rs. 9,862 against Rs. 16,053 in 1113.

Archaeological Department.

Director of Archaeology *Mr. R. Vasudeva Puduval, B. A.*

With a view to the collection and investigation of the available data relating to the political and economic history and the ethnology of the country, Government sanctioned the establishment of an Archaeological Department in 1071 M. E. The work of the department is embodied in the *Travancore Archaeological Series* published from time to time.

General.

Sixteen inscriptions, hitherto unnoticed, were collected and deciphered during the year, of which one is dated Ani 25th of Kollam 958 and mentions the name of a King Rama Varma. Another inscription dated Kollam 901 mentions the name of *Nayinar Sri Vira Rama Varma Cirava Mutta Tampiranar Tiruvadi*, who has not figured in any of the inscriptions hitherto discovered by the department. An equally important record is one inscribed on a four faced pillar lying in a private compound near Thuckalai. It is dated Kollam 680, Tai 2; and this is the first inscription so far discovered in which a Travancore King is distinguished and referred to as "*Nelveliyil Mudinnaruliya*". The symbol of a flag and a goad are also engraved on the fourth side of the stone. In addition to the lithic records, some ancient works of art which had not attracted any

Work Done.

attention were brought to light during the year. They are exquisite specimens of the mural art of Travancore dating from the 15th to 18th century A. D. They were found in the *Adikesavaperumal* temple at Thiruvattar and the Siva temple at Vaikam. Mural paintings were discovered on the outer walls of the *garbhagraha* of the Thirumulikulam temple at Mulakkulam but they were of a later period.

Among the other discoveries of the year may be mentioned some important specimens of megalithic monuments in the High Ranges. They are mainly cromlechs and dolmens. The stones used in the erection of these monuments are of many sizes and shapes, almost all of them weighing several tons.

One of the important activities of the department was in the field of excavation. As a result of excavation carried on in the High Ranges some burial urns were discovered. The urns contained various relics such as rusted swords, daggers, pots etc. Three stone images were exhumed as a result of excavation conducted in the Karuppukottai village near Nagercoil. An inscriptional stone also was discovered on one side of which there are the figures of a rod and ring and on the other side it is recorded that it is a boundary stone of the paddy field endowed on the Bhattarkals of Agastiswaram.

Considerable attention was also paid to the preservation of ancient monuments having a historical, archæological or artistic interest. On a general survey of the architectural monuments scattered in different parts of the country it was seen that Travancore possesses specimens of ancient cave temples and both early and later styles of chola architecture as well as of the Vijayanagar period along with the typical Kerala style. Steps were taken to protect the ancient structures of interest from wanton demolition and to safeguard the relics of archaeological and artistic interest. In a few cases, restoration and special repairs had to be effected. A standing committee, consisting of the Devaswom Commissioner, the Chief Engineer and the Director of Archæology, was constituted for framing rules for the guidance of those entrusted with the conservation, maintenance and repairs of ancient monuments and relics in the State. The Museum of Anti-

quities at Padmanabhapuram attracted 15,137 visitors besides excursion parties from many educational institutions.

One of the notable activities of the department during the year was in the direction of infusing interest in the minds of the general public in Archaeology and allied subjects. Articles on subjects of archaeological or historical interest were published. The index to Vol. VII of the Travancore Archaeological series was printed and distributed to scholars and institutions and a topographical list of inscriptions was prepared and sent to the press for printing.

Expenditure.

The expenditure of the department rose from Rs. 8,221 in 1113 to Rs. 9,151 in 1114.

Museum and Public Gardens.

Art Adviser to Government to supervise Government Museums and Picture Galleries.	*Dr. J. H. Cousins.*
Officer in charge of the Museums.	*Mr. R. Vasudeva Puduval, B. A.*
Honorary Director, Government Gardens.	*Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi, B. A., B. L.*

General.

The Museum was originally started about the year 1853 A. D. and was located in its present site in 1880. The object of the foundation was to encourage science and art. The Public Gardens came into existence in 1859. Soon after, a Zoological Section was formed with His Highness the Maharaja's private menagerie as its nucleus. The Museum, the Public Gardens and the Zoo formed one administrative unit till the end of 1111, when the first as also the second and third, were placed under the control of two separate officers designated officer in charge. The two latter branches together are now known as the 'Government Gardens' under the control of an Honorary Director, assisted by a full-time Superintendent. The institutions, as they exist to-day, are the growth of well over half a century and they have been giving instruction and pleasure to several thousands of people every year.

Museum.

The number of visitors to the Museum during the year was 330,998 against 465,365 in 1113. The number of women visitors to the Museum on Wednesdays, the days set apart for them, was 13,223 against 13,666 in 1113. Among the distinguished visitors special mention may be made of Their Highnesses the Maharaja and Maharanis of Bikaner.

During the year, many of the exhibits in the Museum were overhauled and re-arranged ; and a number of important additions were made to the collections in the institution. Plaster facsimilies of 8 stone images belonging to the 18th century A. D. such as *Kanakabhisekha Krishna*, *Siva* and *Parvathi*, *Subramonia* etc., carved on the granite pillars of the Sri Padmanabhaswami Temple were made and suitably exhibited. During the year, a new section of plaster casts was opened to represent the best specimens of sculptures and carvings typical of the ancient temples of the State.

The Museum of Far Eastern Arts and Crafts, housed in what is known as the Museum Annexe, continued to attract visitors. A set of dance masks from Ceylon and a few more paintings by peasants and fisherfolk of Bali and photographs illustrative of Balinese dance and religious ceremonies were added to this section. During the year, a few additions were also made to the Natural History Section of the Museum.

Zoo.

There were 496 animals in the Zoo at the beginning of the year. 34 animals were added during the year, of which 22 were acquired by purchase, 10 by local breeding and 2 by presentation. Of the 22 specimens purchased, 9 were mammals, 4 birds and 9 reptiles. The number of animals disposed of was 40.

Receipts and Expenditure.

The receipts from the Museum and the Government Gardens amounted to Rs. 1,610 against Rs. 1,143 in 1113. The expenditure fell from Rs. 48,437 to Rs. 45,762.

The Sri Chitralayam.

Art Adviser to Government to supervise Government Museums and Picture Galleries.	*Dr. J. H. Cousins.*
Officer in charge.	*Dr. J. H. Cousins (From 1-1-1114 to 28-9-1114). Mr. R. Vasudeva Puduval, B. A. (From 29-9-1114 to 17-11-1114). Mr. M. R. Madhavan Unnithan, B. A., (From 18-11-1114 till the end of the year).*

The Sri Chitralayam or the State Art Gallery, which was founded in Kanni 1111, has been, during these four years, a notable factor in the cultural life of the State by its display of paintings covering the history of the art in India, particularly in Kerala, and of examples of Asian paintings in affinity with those in India.

There were at the end of the year 245 pictures in the Gallery. During the year, the institution was enriched by the addition of 9 modern Indian paintings, 6 Rajput and Mughal paintings, 10 copies of Kerala murals and 2 Tibetan banners. The additions include works by senior artists, such as Srijits Sarada Ukil of Delhi and Promode Chatterjee of Calcutta, as well as by younger painters in the Indian style, like M. R. Ry. K. Madhava Menon of Kerala, and by promising lady artists. A notable item is the large painting by Srijit D. P. Narayana Rao, now of Madras, depicting the first act of worship on the part of individuals exercising the privilege of the Temple Entry Proclamation.

Additions.

The number of visitors to the Gallery during the year was 1,678. Batches of students from Rishi Valley School, Chittoor District, Mysore College, and elsewhere, greatly enjoyed their visits to the Gallery. Among distinguished visitors were Their Highnesses the Maharaja and Maharanis of Bikaner, Dewan Bahadur T. Raghaviah, ex-Dewan of Travancore, Mr. and Mrs. Papworth of the Presidency College, Madras, Mr. H. K. Hales, and Mr. Kurien of the League of Nations, Geneva.

In addition to new small volumes on art, the complete set of sumptuous volumes, six in number, on 'Persian Art' by Arthur Upham Pope were added to the Library and these provide for students a rich compendium of art-history and achievement.

Library.

The expenditure on the institution during the year was Rs. 6,028 against Rs. 17,634 in 1113.

Expenditure.

State Life Insurance.

Government Servants' Branch.

Government servants in the permanent pensionable service of the State and those of the funds whose services are pensionable from the general revenues are eligible for insurance in this branch. It is compulsory in the case of Government servants who did not contribute to the State Provident Fund from the 1st Meenam 1107. The administrative control of the fund is vested in the Accountant-General.

General.

Four proposals were pending at the close of the previous year and two fresh proposals were received during the year. Of these six proposals, three resulted into policies and the remaining three had to be cancelled for want of required information.

Proposals.

The number of policies in force at the commencement of the year was 644 for Rs. 5,74,922. Three policies aggregating to Rs. 2,945, were issued during the year. 28 policies for a total amount of Rs. 18,833 were removed either by maturity, by death, or by surrender. The number of policies in force at the end of the year was accordingly 619, the total sum assured being Rs. 5,59,034.

Policies.

Including fourteen claims pending at the beginning of the year, the total number of policies which matured during the year was 37, 11 by death and the rest by survival to maturity. 25 claims of the total value of Rs. 17,297 were settled during the year and 12 were pending at the close of the year. Of the 12 pending claims, 5 have since been settled and the rest await either proof of title or non-liability certificate etc.

Claims.

During the year, sixteen applications for loans were received and all were sanctioned. The total amount thus advanced amounted to Rs. 3,733. The receipts on account of loan repayments during the year amounted to Rs. 1,997.

Loans against Policies.

The year opened with a balance of Rs. 4,41,681. The receipts for the year including interest allowed to the fund amounted to Rs. 35,979 and the expenses to Rs. 25,948. The year closed with a balance of Rs. 4,51,713.

Receipts and Expenditure.

State Life Insurance.

(Public Branch.)

This is the sixth year of the introduction of the scheme of State Life Insurance, Public Branch. During the year under report the fund continued to remain under the administrative control of the Accountant-General. The volume of business was steadily on the increase, the number of policies issued having reached 5,312 assuring a sum of Bh. Rs. 45·5 lakhs. The low rates of premia, the nominal establishment charges and the distribution of profits entirely among the policy holders, are some of the unique features of the scheme which have contributed not a little to the growing popularity of the scheme.

General.

1,269 proposals for Rs. 10·25 lakhs were received during the year. Taking into account 1,021 proposals for Rs. 9·73 lakhs which were pending disposal at the beginning of the year there were 2,290 proposals to be dealt with during the year. Out of these, 545 proposals for Rs. 5·42 lakhs were either rejected or cancelled and 1,397 proposals for Rs. 11·49 lakhs accepted. The remaining 348 proposals for Rs. 3·07 lakhs (as against 583 proposals for Rs. 5·89 lakhs at the end of the previous year) were under various stages of consideration at the end of the year.

Proposals.

New business for the year amounted to 1,189 policies for Rs. 9·36 lakhs as against 1,133 policies for Rs. 9·26 lakhs in the previous year. The total number of policies issued till the last day of 1114 was 5,312 assuring a sum of Rs. 45·47 lakhs.

Policies.

Inclusive of 10 claims for Rs. 8,200 relating to the previous year, 27 claims for a total value of Rs. 17,500 came up for settlement on account of deaths, out of which 11 claims were settled during the year for Rs. 6,600, leaving a balance of 16 cases for Rs. 10,900. The delay in the settlement of the claims was in most of the cases, due to non-furnishing of the necessary documents of title etc., by the claimants.

Claims.

The receipts for the year inclusive of advance, interest on investments etc., amounted to Rs. 2,12,046 while the disbursements during the year towards commission to agents, doctor's fees, salary and establishment charges, etc., amounted to Rs. 30,874.

Receipts and payments

The balance to the credit of the fund stood at Rs. 5,54,574 as detailed below:—

Funds.

	Rs.
Investment on 5 per cent. Pro-notes	16,387
Invested in Land Mortgage Bank	1,27,000
Invested in Sirkar Savings Bank	3,84,111
Un-invested balance	27,076
Total	5,54,574

With the merging of the affairs of the Land Mortgage Bank in the Credit Bank the amount invested in the former was released and invested in the Savings Bank and this fetched an interest of 3 per cent. The average interest yield was little over 3 per cent.

The proportion of expenditure on account of the working of the scheme to the premium income was little above 12·5 per cent. against 12·4 per cent in the previous year.

Expense Ratio.

State Savings Bank.

Savings Bank business is conducted in all the State treasuries and also in the important Anchal Offices. In the year under report, the savings bank business was introduced in 4 more Anchal offices, thus raising the number of offices doing savings bank business from 180 in 1113 to 184 in 1114. Besides ordinary deposit accounts open to the public, there are security

General.

deposit accounts allowed in favour of Government contractors for the due performance of the work undertaken by them and also in favour of Government servants who have to furnish security in respect of the appointments held by them. Public accounts are permitted in the case of municipalities, co-operative societies and other public bodies and institutions constituted for purposes other than the personal advantage of the contributors. Fixed deposit accounts are also allowed to be opened in the treasuries by the municipalities and Devaswoms having personal deposit accounts at treasuries and also by administrators of Devaswoms, *Sree Pandaravagai* and *Kandukrishy* funds.

Limit of deposits.

As a rule, the total amount which may be deposited in an ordinary account is limited to Rs. 5,000 in a year and the total amount which a depositor may have at any time to his credit is limited to Rs. 20,000. The limit in the case of public accounts is Rs. 25,000, there being no limit for deposits in a year. The Central Co-operative Bank is allowed to deposit up to Rs. 3 lakhs, interest on their monthly minimum balances in excess of the normal limit of Rs. 25,000 being allowed at 1 per cent. per annum. In the year under report, Government continued the concessions granted for the year 1113 to depositors in the Anchal savings bank *viz.*, raising of the maximum limit of deposits at credit of any depositor from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 50,000 and of removal of the limit of Rs. 5,000 per annum in eight of the important Anchal offices of the State subject to the condition that the rate of interest on amounts in excess of Rs. 20,000 should be only 2 per cent. per annum. The amounts which may be securities or fixed deposits may be held without limit of amount.

Interest.

The rate of savings bank interest at 3 per cent. per annum on the lowest balance on the account between the sixth and the close of the month for ordinary security and public accounts remained the same during the year. The interest earned below 7 chs. in a year is however neglected and when interest exceeding 7 chs. has been earned, the calculation is made to the nearest one-eighth of a rupee. In the case of security accounts, any interest earned below chuckrams $3\frac{1}{2}$ will be neglected. But when interest exceeding chuckrams $3\frac{1}{2}$ has been earned, the calculation is made to the nearest one-eighth of a rupee.

The number of savings bank accounts which stood at 135,627 at the end of 1113 reached 157,112 at the end of 1114.

Volume of Business.

The balance of deposits at the end of 1113 was Rs. 183·10 lakhs and it has risen to Rs. 193·51 lakhs at the end of 1114. The steady rise in the number of depositors and in the closing balance of deposits during the past 10 years (excepting the year 1112) represented in the accompanying graphical charts shows not merely the large increase in the volume of business done, but indicates the popularity and the usefulness of the Government savings bank among the masses.

State Provident Fund.

The State Provident Fund was instituted in the year 1107 with the object of providing facilities for Government servants to invest a portion of their pay every month and to withdraw the accumulated savings as an asset at the time of their retirement from service and also as a provision to the families of the officers in the event of their death before retirement. All officers in permanent, pensionable and non-pensionable service under Government and under local or Municipal bodies are eligible for admission to the fund. Subscription to the fund is compulsory for all permanent entrants into service on or after 1st Meenom 1107 who do not insure their lives in the official branch of the State Life Insurance. The minimum rate of subscription per month is fixed at one chuckram in the rupee of the salary for officers who draw a salary of not above Rs. 100 and one and a half chuckrams per rupee for officers drawing a higher salary. The maximum rate of contribution is four chuckrams in the rupee in all cases except in the case of employees getting a pay of less than Rs. 15 who are allowed to subscribe either chuckrams 14 or chuckrams 7 at their option.

The number of subscribers who were admitted to the fund up to the end of 1114 was 12,919 against 11,234 in 1113. The amount of subscription realised was Rs. 2,61,798 against Rs. 2,34,998 in 1113. Interest accrued on deposits up to the end of 1114 amounted to Rs. 39,276 against Rs. 37,117 at the end of 1113. The rate of interest on the monthly balances of deposits was reduced from 4 per cent. to 3½ per cent. per annum from the 1st Dhanu 1114. The number of accounts finally closed was 153 against 271 in 1113, the amount paid

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